

STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

The State and Consumer Services Agency's (SCSA) mission is to help educate consumers and make government more efficient, effective, and accountable for all California taxpayers. SCSA entities are responsible for civil rights enforcement, consumer protection, and the licensing of 2.3 million Californians in more than 230 professions. The SCSA handles the procurement of nearly \$4 billion worth of goods and services, the management and development of state real estate, oversight of two state employee pension funds, collection of state taxes, hiring of state employees, providing information technology services, adopting state building standards, and administering two state museums. Effective January 1, 2008, the SCSA will also oversee the Office of Information Security and Privacy Protection. The Secretary for the SCSA is Chair of the California Building Standards Commission and the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION SECURITY AND PRIVACY PROTECTION

The Budget includes half-year funding of \$845,000 General Fund and 7 positions to establish the Office of Information Security and Privacy Protection within the State and Consumer Services Agency beginning January 1, 2008. This reflects the transfer of privacy protection responsibility from the Department of Consumer Affairs and information security responsibility from the Department of Finance. The Office will be responsible for leading state agencies in securing and protecting the state's information by identifying critical technology assets and addressing vulnerabilities, deterring identity theft and security incidents, sharing information and technology lessons promptly, enhancing government response and recovery, and developing consumer education programs.

CALIFORNIA SCIENCE CENTER

OPERATIONAL STARTUP FOR THE PHASE II PROJECT

The Budget includes \$1.9 million General Fund and 4.3 positions to begin hiring key employees and purchasing critical equipment necessary to bring the Phase II project online. The Phase II project is a 146,000-square-foot facility that will almost double the amount of exhibit space at the Science Center, and will include the World of Ecology exhibit. Construction of the Phase II project will be completed in 2009.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROFESSIONAL FIDUCIARIES BUREAU

The Budget includes \$1.1 million Professional Fiduciary Fund and 4.8 positions to fund the Professional Fiduciaries Bureau effective January 1, 2007. The Bureau is responsible for licensing and regulating professional fiduciaries in California. By July 1, 2008, all professional fiduciaries must be licensed by the Bureau, which will be funded through fees paid by licensees.

BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR: VISIBLE SMOKE TEST

The Budget includes \$12.3 million (\$1.3 million Vehicle Inspection and Repair Fund and \$11 million High Polluter Repair or Removal Account) and 8.6 positions for the Bureau of Automotive Repair to implement the provisions of Chapter 761, Statutes of 2006, which requires the Bureau to incorporate a visible smoke test into the Smog Check Program by January 1, 2008. Chapter 761 also increases the payment to any consumer retiring a vehicle that fails its biennial Smog Check inspection from \$1,000 to \$1,500. The Program is funded through smog abatement fees paid by California motorists.

FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

TAX GAP INITIATIVES

The Budget provides \$19.3 million General Fund and 228.5 positions for various efforts to reduce the state's estimated \$6.5 billion tax gap. The "tax gap" is the difference between the amount of tax owed, and the amount paid. Of the proposed resources, \$13.6 million and 180.5 positions are for six existing pilot programs that are being established permanently. These programs concentrate on detecting non-filers and filers of fraudulent returns, and on audit and collections activities. The FTB estimates associated revenues of \$64.7 million in 2007-08 and \$68.5 million in 2008-09.

The remaining \$5.7 million and 48 positions are for new initiatives to educate independent contractors about filing requirements, expand the corporate non-filer program, address out-of-state tax avoidance, and increase investigations of persons who fail to file a return, or who file fraudulent returns. The FTB estimates these initiatives will generate revenues of approximately \$15 million in 2007-08 and \$32 million in 2008-09.

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

GREEN BUILDING INITIATIVE

The Budget includes \$3.4 million Service Revolving Fund to implement required energy savings programs and projects as specified in the Governor's Executive Order S-20-04 and the accompanying Green Building Action Plan. These resources will enable the state to systematically reduce energy and water consumption by the state by retrofitting, building, and operating energy and resource efficient buildings consistent with the cost-effective measures of the Green Building Action Plan. These resources will enable the state to operate state-owned facilities that are rated "Silver" or higher as determined by the United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system. Implementing the LEED standard will result in energy, water, and waste cost savings in the management of state buildings. In addition to increased energy efficiency and resource conservation, the Green Building Initiative also contributes to meeting the greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

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