

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT: NON-AGENCY DEPARTMENTS**

**T**he May Revision includes total funding of \$4.5 billion (\$498.9 million General Fund and \$4 billion other funds) for all programs included in this chapter.

In addition to the changes discussed in this chapter, the May Revision includes proposals to reduce state operations and achieve statewide efficiencies. Please see the Reducing State Government chapter for the details of the Governor's proposal.

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### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) protects and promotes California's agriculture industry and ensures that only safe and quality food reaches the consumer. Following the recently adopted solutions below, approximately \$84.1 million General Fund remains in the CDFA's 2011-12 budget for a number of programs, such as agricultural plant and animal health, pest prevention, and food safety services.

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#### **RECENTLY ADOPTED SOLUTIONS**

The Legislature approved the following major solutions in March. They are either signed into law by the Governor or are in pending legislation.

- Eliminate General Fund Support for the Network of California Fairs—A permanent decrease of \$32 million beginning in 2011-12 as a result of removing state funding for support of the fairs.

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### **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

The California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) regulates critical and essential services such as privately owned telecommunications, electric, natural gas, and water companies. The PUC oversees the safety of gas transmission and distribution systems in California.

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### **OTHER POLICY PROPOSALS AND MAJOR WORKLOAD ADJUSTMENTS**

The May Revision includes the following significant policy proposals

California Renewable Resources Act (SBX1 2)—An increase of \$2.1 million Public Utilities Reimbursement Account and 10 positions in 2011-12 to implement a 33 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) by 2020. The enabling legislation requires the PUC to determine annual procurement targets and enforce compliance, review and approve investor-owned utility (IOU) renewable energy procurement plans, review IOU contracts for RPS eligible energy, establish standard terms and conditions for IOU contracts for eligible renewable energy, and calculate market price referrals for non-renewable energy as benchmarks for renewable energy pricing.

Public Safety Risk Assessment and Analysis Unit—An increase of \$1.1 million Public Utilities Reimbursement Account and the redirection of 4 vacant positions to develop and implement a risk analysis-based public safety program to review and identify public safety risks associated with the provision of gas and electricity. Pending reports by the National Transportation Safety Board and a panel convened by the PUC, following the San Bruno gas pipeline accident, are scheduled for release later this year. These reports may identify the need for additional efforts and resources to ensure safe utility operation. The resources proposed in the May Revision are intended to begin the development of a comprehensive safety program reform, and this limited approach is mindful of the restrictive fiscal environment facing the state while taking action on the most critical safety priorities.

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## **COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES**

The Commission on State Mandates is a quasi-judicial agency that hears test claims to determine whether local agencies and school districts are entitled to reimbursement for increased costs mandated by the state. The Constitution requires the Legislature to either fund or suspend specified mandates in the annual Budget Act.

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### **RECENTLY ADOPTED SOLUTIONS**

The Legislature approved the following major solutions in March. They are in pending legislation.

- Suspension of State Mandates—A decrease of \$228.3 million in 2011-12 as a result of suspending most mandates not related to law enforcement or property taxes.
- Deferral of Pre-2004 Mandate Obligations—A decrease of \$94 million in 2011-12 as a result of deferring the 2011-12 payment for costs incurred prior to 2004-05.

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### **OTHER POLICY PROPOSALS AND MAJOR WORKLOAD ADJUSTMENTS**

The May Revision includes the following significant policy proposal necessary to fund law enforcement mandates:

- Law Enforcement Mandates—These mandates will now be funded with General Fund rather than being included in the realignment proposal. These mandates include those related to peace officer protections, domestic violence arrest policies, victim assistance and treatment services, child abduction and recovery services, and civil commitment procedures for sexually violent predators.

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## **MILITARY DEPARTMENT**

The Military Department is responsible for the command, leadership and management of the California Army and Air National Guard and five other related programs.

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**SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS REMAINING SHORTFALL**

Previously proposed or newly proposed solutions are needed to address the remaining budget shortfall. They include:

- Reduce Military Retirement Program—A decrease of \$1.5 million in 2011-12 and ongoing to reflect reduced costs associated with military retirements.

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**VETERANS AFFAIRS**

California owns and operates six veterans homes located in Yountville, Chula Vista, Barstow, Lancaster, Ventura, and West Los Angeles. Two additional homes in Redding and Fresno are under construction. These homes provide residential and medical care services to honorably discharged California veterans who served on active duty and are over the age of 62 or disabled. County Veterans Services Offices, in coordination with the California Department of Veterans Affairs, assist veterans in receiving the federal benefits for which they are eligible.

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**RECENTLY ADOPTED SOLUTIONS**

The Legislature approved the following major solutions in March which are in pending legislation.

- Enterprise-Wide Veterans Home Information System and Federal Sharing Agreements Savings—A decrease of \$5.6 million to reflect savings achieved through efficiencies of the Enterprise-Wide Veterans Homes Information System and savings resulting from the cancellation of federal sharing agreements at the West Los Angeles Veterans Home.
- Delay Opening of Redding and Fresno Veterans Homes—A decrease of \$8.1 million to reflect savings achieved by delaying the opening of the Redding and Fresno Veterans Homes by three months and staggering the implementation of Residential Care Facility for the Elderly and Skilled Nursing Facility services.
- Reduce State Support for County Veterans Services Offices—A decrease of \$7.3 million to reduce state operations for veterans' services and local assistance to County Veterans Services Offices.