

BOARD OF HARBOR COMMISSIONERS FOR HUMBOLDT BAY

ITEM 266 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 812
Budget line No. 7*For Support of Board of Harbor Commissioners for Humboldt Bay
From the General Fund*

Amount requested	\$2,854
Estimated to be expended in 1951-52 Fiscal Year	None
Increase	\$2,854

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$2,854
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	None
Reduction	\$2,854

ANALYSIS

We recommend that the request for support of the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Humboldt Bay be not approved.

The Legislature, at the 1951 Regular Session, deleted from the Budget the request for support of the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Humboldt Bay for the current year.

Action of the Legislature on the budget request for the board was based on the limited activities of the port and the infrequent meetings held by the board. It was pointed out at the time of consideration of the Budget that prior to enactment of Chapter 179 of the Statutes of 1945, which created the board, the responsibility for the control of these activities had rested within the Department of Public Works and was performed out of a local office of the department located in Eureka. It also was pointed out that, according to an audit report submitted by the Division of Audits, Department of Finance, covering the activities of the board for the period August 1947 to August 1949, only one meeting of the commissioners had been held, and this meeting was held in July of 1949 to pass upon the only application requiring board action received during the two-year period. A subsequent audit report covering the period August 1949 to June 1950 indicates that due to the distance of the office of the board from Sacramento, the small volume of transactions and the fact that transactions consisted only of filing claims for expenditures, an examination of the records of the board was prepared from the records of the State Controller rather than travel to Eureka.

In view of the foregoing and in the interest of economy in State Government, we recommend that (1) the request for support of the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Humboldt Bay be deleted from the Budget, (2) that the responsibility for the activities of the port be placed at the local level of government, and (3) that the act creating the board be repealed at the 1953 Regular Session of the Legislature.