

## Motor Vehicles

Item 160

### Military Department—Continued

ishment of a uniformed billet in the "Table of Organization" of the full-time active-duty organization of the California National Guard. It would also permit the Adjutant General some flexibility in that he could authorize and approve promotions within full-time active-duty organization of the California National Guard, provided the established billet was occupied by an enlisted man or officer below the rank or grade called for in the "Table of Organization."

*Subject to the recommendations made above, we recommend approval of this item as budgeted.*

### DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

ITEM 160 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 445

#### FOR SUPPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FROM THE MOTOR VEHICLE FUND

Amount requested	\$23,755,170
Estimated to be expended in 1959-60 fiscal year	24,274,149
Decrease (2.1 percent)	\$518,979

**TOTAL RECOMMENDED REDUCTION**-----No recommendation

#### ANALYSIS

As this agency derives its total support from two special funds and the General Fund, and this separation of fund expenditures is reflected in the Governor's Budget, the summary shown below is presented in order to compare total costs for 1959-60 and 1960-61.

Estimated to be expended in 1959-60 fiscal year	
Motor Vehicle Fund	\$24,274,149
Motor Vehicle License Fee Fund	4,101,703
General Fund	393,289
Total estimated expenditures fiscal year 1959-60	\$28,769,141
Amount requested	
Motor Vehicle Fund	\$23,755,170
Motor Vehicle License Fee Fund	3,905,720
General Fund	215,192
Total requested fiscal year 1960-61	\$27,876,082
Decrease (3.1 percent)	\$893,059

Support of this agency from the Motor Vehicle Fund shows a reduction of 2.1 percent or \$518,979. The indicated savings are due principally to reduction in expenditures for salaries and wages for 182 positions and related reductions in operating expenses and equipment.

We have been unable to translate the proposed reductions in positions into specific procedural or program changes, since neither the agency nor the Department of Finance has responded to our request for such specific information. Presumably it is hoped that prospective changes in procedures or program will allow such savings to be made. To the extent that this can be done without resulting in excessive delay in processing essential documents or eliminating certain highway safety programs is commendable. Our primary concern in not knowing the real intent of this reduction is that if changes are made which cause public complaints and this in turn causes retraction and a reduction in certain other programs it may have an adverse effect on highway safety. Specifically, because motorists will complain if there is delay in processing registrations, or congestion in handling drivers' licenses there may be an ultimate move to cut the negligent driver

## Department of Motor Vehicles—Continued

program, since it is not subject to public complaints such as those cited above.

Savings resulting from a withdrawal or reduction of emphasis of the efforts of the department to keep the habitual, recurrent offender off the highways of the State by suspension or nonrenewal of his driving privilege, would in our opinion, be false economy. Rather than any reduction or withdrawal from the departmental responsibilities in this highway safety activity we believe it should be strengthened and have so recommended in the past.

A review of the personnel reductions of the department related to projected workload increases is as indicated below.

## Division of Registration

Position reductions: current year 51.5; budget year 80; total 131.5.

Estimated registration workload increases by fiscal year.

1959-60 increase over 1958-59	4.1 percent
1960-61 increase over 1959-60	4.8 percent

## Division of Drivers' Licenses

Position reductions: current year 20; budget year 85; total 105.

Estimated Drivers' Licenses workload increases by fiscal year.

1959-60 increase over 1958-59	18.4 percent
1960-61 increase over 1959-60	11.3 percent

Estimated financial responsibility workload increases by fiscal year.

1959-60 increase over 1958-59	6.8 percent
1960-61 increase over 1959-60	6.8 percent

## Division of Field Operations

Position reductions: current year 108; budget year 14; total 122.

Estimated Field Operation workload increases by fiscal year.

1959-60 increase over 1958-59	10.6 percent
1960-61 increase over 1959-60	10.3 percent

We believe the agency should clarify its intent with respect to the habitual offender and driver improvement programs.

*With the reservation expressed in the discussion above, we cannot recommend approval of this item.*

## DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

ITEM 161 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 450

## FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FROM THE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE FEE FUND

Amount requested	\$3,905,720
Estimated to be expended in 1959-60 fiscal year	4,101,703
Decrease (4.8 percent)	\$195,983

TOTAL RECOMMENDED REDUCTION No recommendation

## ANALYSIS

This annual appropriation is made from this fund by the Legislature as authorized by Section 11002 of the Revenue and Taxation Code for the purpose of providing support funds to the department for the enforcement and administration of the Vehicle License Fee Law.

As we have previously stated, a lack of sufficient information to properly evaluate this agency's budget on an overall basis, prevents us from making an informed recommendation in respect to the budget request of this department.

Therefore, we again make no recommendation pending clarification of the program.

## DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

ITEM 162 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 450

## FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FROM THE GENERAL FUND

Amount requested .....	\$215,192
Estimated to be expended in 1959-60 fiscal year .....	393,298
Decrease (45.3 percent) .....	\$178,106

TOTAL RECOMMENDED REDUCTION ..... None

## ANALYSIS

This budget reflects for the first time the Department of Motor Vehicles reimbursable costs in connection with its support of the Small Boat Registration Program provided under Chapter 1454, Statutes of 1959.

It must be pointed out that \$18,000 in each of the fiscal years shown above is used to defray the costs of providing information to the Department of Justice to be used in assisting counties in locating fathers who fail to support their families.

The decrease of 45.3 percent over the current year's costs is largely due to the elimination of approximately 34.9 man-years of production which were necessary during the period of initial implementation of the Small Boat Registration Program in the current year. Other factors in this program in which reductions were made are decreased operating expenses, overhead, and equipment costs. This program is on a favorable fiscal basis in that the anticipated revenues to the General Fund are expected to exceed the expenditures for its support.

*It is recommended that this item be approved as budgeted.*

## Department of Motor Vehicles

## DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS

ITEM 163 of the Budget Bill

## FOR PAYMENTS OF DEFICIENCIES IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FROM THE MOTOR VEHICLE FUND

Amount requested .....	\$350,000
Estimated to be expended in 1959-60 fiscal year .....	45,554
Increase .....	\$304,446

TOTAL RECOMMENDED REDUCTION ..... None

## ANALYSIS

A like amount of \$350,000 was appropriated in the Budget Act of 1959 and to date only \$45,554 has been obligated for the purpose of continuing 15 positions needed in connection with the program of placing photographs on drivers licenses.

The Department of Motor Vehicles cannot request funds from the Emergency Fund to defray expenses of an emergency nature. Because of the complexity of its operation and its size, the Department of Motor Vehicles must request this annual special appropriation for costs resulting from unanticipated emergencies. We concur with this principle of budgetary planning.

*We recommend approval.*