STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
DF-46 (REV 03/25)

Fiscal Year	Business Unit Number	Department
2026–2027	4265	California Department of Public Health

Hyperion Budget Request Name	Relevant Program or Subprogram
4265-076-BCP-2026-GB	4045059 – Environmental Health

Budget Request Title
Radiologic Health Program

Budget Request Summary
The California Department of Public Health requests $4.6 million from the Radiation Control Fund in 2026–27 and ongoing to support increased program operation costs.

Requires Legislation (submit required legislation with the BCP)	Code Section(s) to be Added/Amended/Repealed
☐ Trailer Bill Language ☐ Budget Bill Language ☒ N/A	N/A

Does this BCP contain information technology (IT) components? ☐ Yes ☒ No *If yes, departmental Chief Information Officer must sign.*	Department CIO	Date
	N/A	N/A

For IT requests, specify the project number, the most recent project approval document (FSR, SPR, S1BA, S2AA, S3SD, S4PRA), the approval date, and the total project cost.

Project No. N/A **Approval Date:** N/A

Project Approval Document: N/A **Total Project Cost:** N/A

If proposal affects another department, does other department concur with proposal? ☐ Yes ☒ No
Attach comments of affected department, signed and dated by the department director or designee.

Prepared By	Date	Reviewed By	Date
June Weintraub	7/9/2025	Phuong La	7/22/2025
Department Director	**Date**	**Agency Secretary**	**Date**
Rita Nguyen	8/7/2025	Julie Souliere	8/29/2025

Department of Finance Use Only

Additional Review: ☐ Capital Outlay ☐ ITCU ☐ FSCU ☐ OSAE ☐ Dept. of Technology

Principal Program Budget Analyst	Date submitted to the Legislature
Nina Hoang	1/10/2026

A. Problem Statement

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH), through the Radiologic Health Branch (RHB), licenses and inspects Radioactive Materials (RAM) users, registers and inspects facilities where X-ray machines are used, and certifies X-ray machines as well as the medical professionals who use X-ray machines or RAM for medical diagnosis and treatment. Additionally, RHB approves physicists who provide services to mammography and radiation therapy facilities, as well as schools that offer training courses for these professionals.

These radiation licensees pay fees, which are deposited in the Radiation Control Fund (RCF), which finances the California Radiation Protection Program that is designed to safeguard workers, the public, and the environment from the harmful effects of RAM and machine-produced radiation.

Over the years, due to inflation and numerous new activity costs, RHB incurred continually increasing operational costs and is no longer able to absorb these increased costs within its current expenditure authority. To manage the increasing costs, RHB has limited backfilling vacant positions, resulting in an understaffed program.

The proposed increase in expenditure authority is necessary to sustain essential operations and maintain compliance with statutory requirements. However, this increase will create a structural fund deficit in the RCF, as authorized expenditures will exceed revenues under the current fee structure. A fee increase of 20.3 percent is required to stabilize the RCF to create sustainability. The last fee increase was assessed in 2017 to establish fund solvency and encountered minimal opposition.

To safeguard public and worker health, maintain compliance with state and federal requirements, promptly certify medical radiation professionals so that they can perform diagnostic and therapeutic services, and reduce regulatory burdens on businesses, CDPH requests an increase in expenditure authority.

Resource History – Radiation Control Fund (Fund 0075)

(Dollars in thousands)

Program Budget	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25*	2025–26*
Authorized Expenditures	$27,564	$30,172	$31,381	$31,832	$31,349	$31,365
Actual Expenditures	$27,563	$29,220	$29,423	$30,453	$31,349	$31,365
Revenues	$30,924	$31,109	$31,281	$30,998	$30,030	$30,030
Authorized Positions	128	122.5	122.6	122.6	122.6	122.6**
Filled Positions	116	109.5	109.6	110.6	107.6	107.6
Vacancies	12	13	11	12	15	15**

* Projected figures are reported. Expenditures, revenues, and vacancies are not yet final.

** Figures do not include Control Section 4.05 Government Efficiencies Reductions adjustments or reductions to authorized positions via Control Section 4.12 Vacancy Savings adjustments, which will reduce 5.0 positions in the 2026-27 Governor's Budget.

Workload History – X-Ray Machine Inspection Workloads

Workload Measure	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26*
Inspections required	4,766	4,790	4,814	4,838	4,862	4,886
Inspections performed	4,426	4,703	3,514	2,872	3,385	3,464
Inspection backlog	340	87	1,300	1,966	1,477	1,422

* Estimated.

Workload History – Radioactive Materials Licensing Workloads

Workload Measure	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26*
RAM licensing actions (new applications, amendments, renewals, and terminations)	1,465	1,455	1,288	1,368	1,493	1,405
RAM licensing actions performed	1,175	1,150	1,056	1,122	1,066	849
RAM licensing action backlog	409	362	232	246	427	556

* Estimated.

B. Justification

CDPH RHB has incurred increased operational expenditures without increasing expenditure authority. These increases, totaling nearly $4.6 million, are due to increased contractual and staffing costs.

- Contract increases: $2.9 million
  - Inspection contract cost increases: $1.2 million
    - Los Angeles County
    - San Diego County
  - Equipment contract cost increases: $523,000
    - Radiation detection equipment maintenance and calibration
    - Personnel radiation monitoring devices
    - Remote radiation monitoring
  - Printing and mailing contract cost increases: $517,000
  - Health Application Licensing (HAL) contract cost increases: $620,000
- Personnel cost increases: $1.7 million

RHB previously absorbed these costs, however, the increased costs can no longer be absorbed and RHB cannot perform critical operations without increased expenditure authority. Specifically, without the requested increase, RHB is unable to continue multiple contract procurements or fill vacant positions. This will lead to an increase in inspection backlogs and longer processing times for registration, certification applications, and licensing actions.

RHB currently contracts with Los Angeles County and San Diego County to perform X-ray facility inspections. If RHB is unable to continue these contracts, 1,950 X-ray facility inspections and 175 RAM inspections would not be performed locally. This would add to the current backlog and likely result in local layoffs for the local programs.

RHB also currently has a contract with Diquad for 20 full-time employees to perform inspections at dental facilities. Without increased expenditure authority for this contract, over 3,000 dental facilities would need to be added to RHB's backlog.

RHB's equipment contracts are also at risk of being underfunded, which will lead to the discontinuation of contracts for radiation detection equipment maintenance and calibration, personnel radiation monitoring devices, and remote radiation monitoring. Without these contracts, RHB would not be able to perform needed activities such as inspections, environmental monitoring, and emergency response.

Furthermore, RHB's printing and mailing contract is at risk of discontinuance at its current rate. In past years, RHB was able to meet its printing needs at a discount rate. However, this printing arrangement was terminated and RHB was required to procure a new printing contract in 2024 that significantly increased its printing costs from approximately $50,000 to $517,000.

The HAL expenses, which support the database containing information on over 35,000 facilities that possess radiation producing machines and approximately 57,000 medical professionals who operate X-ray machines for medical purposes, can no longer be absorbed within the current spending authority. This data system is critical to support certification of medical professionals and the X-ray inspection program.

Insufficient funding authority impacts RHB's ability to fill vacancies, which affects its ability to perform its needed activities and services, such as application processing. However, due to increased operational costs, funds have been redirected from filling positions, and even with the process efficiencies, processing times have now increased to four to six weeks. This delay has the potential to create a compliance and enforcement situation where many of the over 35,000 X-ray facilities and over 57,000 medical professionals are at risk of operating without a license or inspection if they do not get their applications or renewals in sufficiently early, and even with good planning, the backlog of inspections and certifications will grow.

Similarly, processing time for medical X-ray certification, radiation educational program approval, radioactive material license amendment actions, and radioactively contaminated property cleanup oversight activities have increased. This backlog worsens with the continued growth in the number of applications and X-ray facilities, exacerbating an already severe problem caused by insufficient funding to fill vacancies and continued increases in operating costs.

To safeguard public and worker health, reduce backlogs, promptly certify medical radiation professionals needed to perform diagnostic and therapeutic services, reduce regulatory burdens on businesses, and maintain compliance with state and federal requirements, it is important to increase expenditure authority to meet these programmatic needs.

C. Departmentwide and Statewide Considerations

California has an agreement with the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission to regulate radioactive materials in lieu of federal control. Under that agreement, California, through CDPH, is obligated to review, inspect, and license the use of RAM. Funding and resources limitation would impact CDPH's ability to meet the agreement's performance standards. Failure to meet those standards could jeopardize the status of California's agreement and have consequences that could include the re-establishment of federal control.

CDPH's mission is "to advance the health and well-being of California's diverse people and communities." CDPH, through its administration of the California Radiation Protection Program, is responsible for providing California's public health functions associated with administering a radiation control program. This includes licensing of RAM, registration of X-ray-producing machines, certification of medical and industrial X-ray and radioactive material users, inspection of facilities using radiation, investigation of radiation incidents, and surveillance and cleanup oversight of radioactive contamination in the environment.

CDPH's strategic goals include protecting and promoting physical, mental, and community health for all Californians with a renewed focus on prevention and resilience. Additionally, CDPH is challenged with tackling community and population health improvement and emergency preparedness and response. By investing additional funding and resources, RHB will be able to inspect medical facilities at the required frequency to certify that X-ray and mammography machines are operated by qualified personnel and are properly calibrated, thereby supporting the delivery of safe and effective health care services.

Without sufficient expenditure authority and revenues from fees, CDPH is unable to perform essential activities. An inspection backlog will prevent medical professionals from becoming licensed or having their licenses or certificates renewed, leading to business disruptions, delays in patient care, and a decrease in CDPH resources for essential and emergency services. Delays in these services may trigger cascading disruptions and complaints of professionals and facilities operating without licenses, incompetent radiation users or environmental contamination in the healthcare and environmental related industries and sectors which will further strain CDPH staff resources.

D. Outcomes and Accountability

An increase in expenditure authority will allow RHB to maintain operational contracts for:

1) The maintenance and calibration of radiation detection equipment and personnel monitoring devices,
2) Performing remote radiation monitoring for dental facilities,
3) Continuance of inspection contracts with Los Angeles and San Diego counties,
4) Continuance of the HAL maintenance, and
5) License printing and mailing services.

It will also allow RHB to fill positions to complete mission critical and statutorily required work, including inspection of X-ray machine users, reducing the processing time for certifying radiation personnel and performing licensing actions, enabling more radiation personnel to provide healthcare services to the public.

Projected Outcomes – X-Ray Machine Inspection Workloads

Workload Measure	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Inspections required	4,886	4,910	4,934	4,958	4,983	5,008
Inspections projected to be performed*	3,462	3,650	4,087	4,339	4,339	4,339
Backlog	1,422	1,260	847	619	644	669

* Projection based on filling 7.0 X-ray Inspector positions within two years.

Projected Outcomes – Radioactive Materials Licensing Workloads

Workload Measure	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Projected RAM licensing actions (new applications, amendments, renewals, and terminations)	**1,405**	**1,401**	**1,398**	**1,395**	**1,392**	**1,389**
RAM licensing actions performed	**849**	**889**	**924**	**953**	**977**	**998**
Backlog	**556**	**512**	**474**	**442**	**415**	**391**

E. Implementation Plan

This proposal provides funding to fill vacancies and to support critical RHB activities. Below is a timeline for the first year.

July 2026 – December 2026	• Develop criteria to evaluate and prioritize X-ray machine inspection needs • Develop criteria to evaluate and prioritize Radioactive Material Licensing needs • Develop criteria to evaluate and prioritize LA and SD Conty contract needs • Negotiate new LA and SD County contracts based on analysis of program needs • Execute and utilize HAL contracts, equipment, printing, and mailing • Execute evaluation of the above criteria and determine program needs

F. Supplemental Information

Attachment A: BCP Fiscal Detail Sheet

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
DF-46 (REV 03/25)

BCP Fiscal Detail Sheet

(Dollars in Thousands)
BCP Title: Radiologic Health Program
BR Name: 4265-076-BCP-2026-GB
Budget Request Summary

Operating Expenses and Equipment

Operating Expenses and Equipment	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
5301 - General Expense	0	1,702	1,702	1,702	1,702	1,702
5340 - Consulting and Professional Services - External	0	1,850	1,850	1,850	1,850	1,850
5368 - Non-Capital Asset Purchases - Equipment	0	1,040	1,040	1,040	1,040	1,040
Total Operating Expenses and Equipment	**$0**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**

Total Budget Request

Total Budget Request	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
Total Budget Request	**$0**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**

Fund Summary

Fund Source

Fund Source	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
State Operations - 0075 - Radiation Control Fund	0	4,592	4,592	4,592	4,592	4,592
Total State Operations Expenditures	**$0**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**
Total All Funds	**$0**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**

Program Summary

Program Funding

Program Funding	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
4045059 - Environmental Health	0	4,592	4,592	4,592	4,592	4,592
Total All Programs	**$0**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**	**$4,592**