

## BUDGET BILL JR. SUMMARY – AB 102

*Please note, the below summary only highlights items anticipated to be of interest to local health departments.*

### **CDPH Items:**

#### **Public Health Worker Upskill Training Program**

*Restores Funding that was proposed to be cut in the Governor's January Budget. Funding details mostly remain unchanged with the exception that it extends the availability of funding to 2026.*

- Provides \$3.2 million General Fund, available until June 30, **2026** to support a Public Health Workforce Development and Engagement Program to improve retention of the public health workforce and help incumbent workers develop skills to meet future public health demands
- Allows CDPH to use up to \$160,000 of this funding to administer the program.
- Requires CDPH to use funds to support employees at CDPH and award grants to LHDs for education and training opportunities for incumbent employees within the governmental public health workforce; eligible uses of funding include:
  - Providing stipends to eligible employees to offset the loss of compensation for up to 12 hours per workweek for eligible educational pursuits; stipends shall be up to \$600 per week per eligible employee for up to 12 weeks per year
  - Hiring additional employees to support the goals of the program, such as covering employees while they participate in educational pursuits
  - Reimbursement for educational costs for eligible employees, such as tuition, registration fees, or other educational expenses when participating in eligible educational pursuits
- Requires CDPH to solicit applications internally and from LHDs to participate in the program; requires applications to specify the proposed use of funds, total amount requested, and any other information required by CDPH.
- Specifies eligible employees as full- or part-time employee within an LHD or CDPH who has been employed by that entity for a minimum of one year.
- Specifies eligible educational pursuits as:
  - Educational programs at regionally accredited institutions in the public health field, such as nursing, microbiology, public health, public administration, epidemiology, lab science, and community health
  - Industry-recognized training programs related to the public health field
  - Continuing education units required to maintain an individual's license or certification
  - Earn-and-learn programs in the public health field (e.g., apprenticeships, pre-apprenticeships, incumbent worker training, transitional jobs, paid internships/externships, project-based compensated learning)
- No later than July 1, 2026, requires CDPH to submit to the Legislature a report of the uses and outcomes of the program, including the total number of individuals participating in eligible educational pursuits, a summary of the types and credentials and skills attained through the program, and an evaluation of the effectiveness of the program.
- The final budget agreement restores the \$3.2 million per year for four years.

#### **Public Health Pathways Training Corps**

*Restores Funding that was proposed to be cut in the Governor's January Budget. Funding details mostly remain unchanged with the exception that it extends the availability of funding to 2026.*

- Provides \$8 million General Fund, available until June 30, **2026**, to provide fellowships for early-career public health professionals and internships for students from diverse backgrounds and disproportionately affected communities to conduct communicable disease prevention and control, community engagement, emergency response, and other public health activities at local health department host sites.
- Allows CDPH to use up to \$400,000 of this funding to administer the program.
- Requires CDPH to annually accept applications for the programs and strive to maximize participation.
- Requires CDPH to place programs in diverse local health departments throughout the state, including rural and Central Valley jurisdictions.
- Requires CDPH to provide a report to the Legislature by July 1, 2026, that includes the following:
  - The number of applicants.
  - The number of individuals accepted into the program each year.
  - Job attainment results following participation in the program, including, but not limited to the percentage of individuals employed in governmental public health, the percentage employed in the private sector, the percentage employed by hospitals, and the percentage employed in other fields.
  - Demographics of applicants and program participants.
- The final budget agreement provides \$8 million per year for three years.

#### **Public Health Microbiologist Training**

*Restores Funding that was proposed to be cut in the Governor's January Budget. Funding details mostly remain unchanged with the exception that it extends the availability of funding to 2026.*

- Provides \$2,794,000 to CDPH and \$406,000 for local assistance to increase the number of Public Health Microbiologist Trainees in California.
- Funds would be available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, **2026**.
- Upon approval from the Department of Finance, authorizes CDPH to transfer any amount of state operations funding to local assistance.
- Authorizes CDPH to retain up to \$160,000 to administer the program.

#### **Lab Aspire**

*Restores Funding that was proposed to be cut in the Governor's January Budget. Funding details mostly remain unchanged with the exception that it extends the availability of funding to 2026.*

- Provides \$2,678,000 to CDPH and \$522,000 for local assistance to support the Lab Aspire Program.
- Allows CDPH to use up to \$160,000 to administer the program.
- Funds are available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, **2026**.
- Allows any amount of the \$2,678,000 to be transferred for local administration of this program.

#### **California Epidemiologic Investigation Service Training Program**

*Restores Funding that was proposed to be cut in the Governor's January Budget. Funding details mostly remain unchanged with the exception that it extends the availability of funding to 2026.*

- Provides \$3.2 million General Fund to CDPH to increase the number of fellows in the California Epidemiologic Investigation Service Training Program.

- Authorizes CDPH to retain up to \$160,000 to administer the program.
- Funds are available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, **2026**.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Public Health System**

- Provides roughly \$18 million to CDPH for Information Technology, Data Science, and Informatics Framework for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Public Health System. The funding must be encumbered or expended by June 30, 2025.
- Allows funding to be augmented by \$15.9 million for planning activities associated with Initiative 0 Enterprise Planning and Strategy, Initiative 1 Dynamic Public Health Structure, and Initiative 4 Public Health Data Integration of the Information Technology, Data Science and Informatics Framework for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Public Health System.
  - Expenditure of funds is contingent upon approval of enterprise planning and strategy documents by the California Health and Human Services Agency and the Department of Technology.
  - Requires the Department of Finance approval to consider verified satisfactory progress associated with Initiative 0 planning.
  - Requires any necessary Project Approval Lifecycle documents to be approved by the Department of Technology.

### **STDs**

- Extends availability of funds for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, **2028**. (Funding initially included in 2022 Budget Act.)
- Provides \$9 million for grants to eight local health jurisdictions for sexually transmitted disease prevention and control – Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, and San Joaquin.
- Requires 60 percent of funds to be allocated based on early syphilis morbidity and 40 percent based on congenital syphilis.
- Funds must be used to support innovative and impactful syphilis and congenital syphilis prevention and control activities with a focus on disproportionately impacted populations as determined by local or regional syphilis or congenital syphilis epidemiology.
- Provides \$1m to CDPH to implement and oversee a grant program for specified local health jurisdictions for sexual transmitted disease prevention and control activities.
- Requires CDPH to monitor activities of the local health jurisdiction and to assess the effectiveness of STD prevention and control activities.
- Funds must be used to supplement, not supplant existing resources.
- Exempts contracts or grants awarded for this to be exempt from Public Contracting Code and the State Contracting Manual and DGS approval.

### **Hepatitis B**

- Extends availability of funds for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, **2028**. (Funding initially included in 2022 Budget Act.)
- Provides \$2.7 million for CDPH to establish demonstration projects to allow for innovative, evidence-informed approaches to improve the health and well-being of the most vulnerable and underserved Californians living with or at risk for hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection.
- Provides \$300,000 to CDPH for administration of the program.
- The demonstration projects shall be informed, in part by, a landscape analysis to be conducted by CDPH of existing HBV outreach, screening, and linkage to and retention in care efforts statewide.
- Requires CDPH to establish a process to request applications, and award funding on a competitive basis, for eligible entities.
- Allows any entity in any California county to apply to operate a demonstration project if it demonstrates experience and expertise in providing culturally appropriate services to the most vulnerable and underserved people living with or at risk for HBV.

- Requires applications to be evaluated based on need in the geographic area, populations served, competency of the entity applying, and program design.
- Requires demonstration projects to include an evaluation component and CDPH to develop a plan to disseminate lessons learned.

#### **Hepatitis C**

- Provides \$10m General Fund for local assistance to support investments to end the epidemic of hepatitis C, pursuant to [Section 122440 of the Health and Safety Code](#).

#### **CDPH Office of Oral Health**

- Authorizes CDPH to augment existing Proposition 56 funding with General Fund to ensure the Office of Oral Health receives at least \$30 million annually.

#### **Youth Suicide Reporting and Crisis Response Program**

- Extends the availability of \$20 million General Fund for the Youth Suicide Reporting and Crisis Response Program until June 30, **2026**.
- Exempts contracts entered into for this purpose from Public Contracting Code and the State Contracting Manual and DGS approval.

#### **COVID-19**

- Makes \$51.3 million available for COVID-19 response.
- Provides \$182,000 General Fund to CDPH for a retrospective analysis on the intersection of the COVID-19 pandemic, health disparities, and equity. As part of the analysis, CDPH is required to make recommendations to the Legislature on how to address the health disparities and inequities exposed and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention**

- Provides an additional \$9.5 million from the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund for a total of \$29.4 million for local assistance.

#### **Fentanyl Grants and Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction**

- Provides \$6 million for local assistance for fentanyl program grants and innovative approaches to make fentanyl test strips and naloxone more widely available.
- Authorizes the Department of Finance to approve a request to augment the Naloxone Distribution Project by \$15.25 million in Opioid Settlements Funds to support expansion of the project. Requires State Controller to transfer funds from the opioid settlement with Purdue Pharma and the Sackler Family to the Opioid Settlements Fund.