

State of Washington
Decision Package

FINAL

Agency: **303 Department of Health**
Decision Package Code/Title: **R3 Pesticide Illness Monitoring**
Budget Period: **2015-17**
Budget Level: **PL-Performance Level**

Recommendation Summary Text:

This funding maintains current level of pesticide illness monitoring and prevention capabilities to prevent increased risk of pesticide exposure and public health vulnerability. This work was originally funded by general fund state. That general fund state was reduced when a federal grant could be attained. The federal funding was recently eliminated.

Fiscal Detail

Operating Expenditures	<u>FY 2016</u>	<u>FY 2017</u>	<u>Total</u>
001-1 General Fund-State	0	114,000	114,000
Total Cost	0	114,000	114,000
Staffing	<u>FY 2016</u>	<u>FY 2017</u>	<u>Annual Avg</u>
FTEs	0.0	1.0	0.5

Package Description:

The Department of Health's (department) Pesticide Illness Monitoring and Prevention program investigates about 300 pesticide-related illness cases annually. The types of illness reports investigated include: exposures to all pesticides defined under federal law; workplace and home exposures; exposures to over-the-counter pesticides and restricted-use pesticides used by professional pesticide applicators; and case reports of systemic symptoms, irritant symptoms, skin and eye injuries, and allergic symptoms.

As of July 1, 2015, the Pesticide Illness Monitoring and Prevention program will no longer receive federal National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) funds from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Without this funding, the program will be forced to reduce staffing levels. This will limit the program's ability to investigate pesticide exposures by reducing investigation turn-around time and frequency.

The program is mandated through RCW 70.104 and the reporting of pesticide-related illnesses is required by WAC 246-101-101.

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Program Contact: Pesticide Illness Surveillance Section Manager, Wayne Clifford, (360) 236-3181

Narrative Justification and Impact Statement:

What specific performance outcomes does the agency expect?

The Pesticide Illness Monitoring and Prevention Program investigate about 300 pesticide-related illness cases annually. Without this funding, the program will be forced to reduce staff that provide 35 percent of the investigative capacity for the program, resulting in approximately 100 potential pesticide exposures per year being delayed or uninvestigated. If this proposal is funded, there would be no reduction in investigation turn-around time and frequency.

Performance Measure Detail

Activity: A005 – Protect Community Environmental Health

Is this DP essential to implement a strategy identified in the agency’s strategic plan?

Yes, Goal 2: Prevent illness and injury and promote ongoing wellness across the lifespan for everyone in Washington.

Does this DP provide essential support to one or more of the Governor’s Results Washington priorities?

The following sections of the Governor’s Results Washington are affected by this request:
Goal 4: Healthy and Safe Communities

What are the other important connections or impacts related to this proposal?

An area of major work in the program is agricultural pesticide drift. This is a topic of continued focus by farmworker advocates, industry, and the legislature. Funding this proposal is critical to providing ongoing data and analysis for the understanding of this issue.

Funding this proposal will support the improvement of health equity since pesticide exposure disproportionately affects people of color and low-income groups.

What alternatives were explored by the agency and why was this alternative chosen?

The alternative explored was to request this funding from the State Toxics Control Account. That account is over obligated for the current biennium, so we chose to request general fund state. Additionally general fund state was the original funding source for this work.

What are the consequences of not funding this package?

Without this funding, DOH will be forced to reduce staffing levels. This will limit the program’s ability to conduct investigations by reducing investigation turn-around time and frequency, as well as curtailing the program’s illness prevention work.

What is the relationship, if any, to the state capital budget?

N/A

What changes would be required to existing statutes, rules, or contracts, in order to implement the change?

N/A

Expenditure and revenue calculations and assumptions:

Revenue:

None

Expenditures:

Beginning in fiscal year (FY 2017) and ongoing, the department requests 1.0 FTE Public Health Advisor 3 and \$114,000 in order to maintain current levels of effort. This position provides about 35 percent of the investigative capacity for the program, and is critical to providing ongoing pesticide drift data and analysis. (FY 2017 – 1.0 FTE and \$114,000)

Which costs and functions are one-time? Which are ongoing? What are the budget impacts in future biennia?

All costs are ongoing.

<u>Object Detail</u>	<u>FY 2016</u>	<u>FY 2017</u>	<u>Total</u>
A Salaries and Wages		77,000	77,000
B Employee Benefits		23,000	23,000
C Personal Service Contracts			
E Goods and Services		12,000	12,000
G Travel			
J Capital Outlays			
T Intra-Agency Reimbursements		2,000	2,000
Total Objects	0	114,000	114,000