

State tax agency plagued by moldy building

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SACRAMENTO — California officials want to move state workers out of a moldy building in Sacramento.

Ramon Hirsig, executive director of the Board of Equalization, has persuaded lawmakers to draft a bill that would authorize his tax-collecting agency to find a new home.

Right now the agency is housed in a 24-story building in the capital's downtown. It has been plagued by leaks, falling windows and mold.

The state was supposed to have spent \$15 million on cleaning and repairs, but that tab has grown to \$68 million.

The bill is being carried by Democratic Assemblyman Dave Jones and Republican Sen. George Runner. It would authorize the agency to move out and sell or lease the building.