



CALIFORNIA BUDGET PROJECT

For Immediate Release
January 8, 2010

Contact: Jean Ross (916) 444-0500

Jean Ross on the Governor's 2010-11 Proposed Budget

Earlier today, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger released his 2010-11 Proposed Budget. In response, Jean Ross, executive director of the California Budget Project, a nonpartisan public policy research group, released this statement:

The Governor's proposed budget will batter a struggling economy and make life tougher for millions of families already struggling in the face of double-digit unemployment rates. The Governor is proposing deep cuts to K-12 schools at a time when it's more important than ever that California invest in education to ensure the competitiveness of its future workforce. He's proposing cuts to the Healthy Families Program, which will lead to more uninsured children. He's slashing the In-Home Supportive Services Program, which will increase demand for costly nursing home care. At a time when the Governor is talking about the importance of "jobs, jobs, jobs," he's proposing deeper cuts to the CalWORKs Program, California's highly successful welfare-to-work program.

California needs a balanced approach to its budget crisis that includes new revenues and additional federal aid. California is among many states in the nation facing an enormous deficit during the worst economic crisis this country has seen since the Great Depression. Along with making sure that current American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds are being distributed as quickly as possible, California should be partnering with other states to make the case that without a second round of federal aid, deficits as large and persistent as California's could lead to cuts and layoffs that could tip the country back into a recession.

And at a time when we need to carefully target every dollar of revenue toward education and programs that serve the common good, there has never been a worse time for poorly targeted tax credits like those the Governor has proposed. California simply can't afford them.

###

The California Budget Project (CBP) engages in independent fiscal and policy analysis and public education with the goal of improving public policies affecting the economic and social well-being of low- and middle-income Californians. Support for the CBP comes from foundation grants, publications, and individual contributions. Please visit the CBP's website at www.cbp.org.

1107 9th Street, Suite 310
Sacramento, California 95814
P: (916) 444-0500
F: (916) 444-0172
cbp@cbp.org
www.cbp.org