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THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET WOULD ELIMINATE CALWORKS CASH ASSISTANCE FOR MORE THAN 1.4 MILLION LOW-INCOME CHILDREN AND PARENTS

The California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Program provides cash assistance to low-income families with children, while helping parents find jobs and overcome barriers to employment. More than three-quarters (77.9 percent) of CalWORKs recipients are children. The Governor's Proposed 2010-11 Budget proposes to:

- Reduce CalWORKs payments by 15.7 percent effective June 1, 2010. This proposal would cut the maximum monthly payment for a family of three in high-cost counties from \$694 to \$585, thereby reducing cash assistance for more than 1.4 million children and parents and causing an estimated 20,500 recipients who receive small payments to lose the entire amount. CalWORKs payments have not kept pace with inflation and their purchasing power would decline further under this proposal, which would cut cash assistance by \$649.4 million between June 2010 and June 2011.
- Eliminate CalWORKs eligibility for 23,750 legal immigrants who have resided in the US for less than five years for savings of \$3.5 million in 2009-10 and \$57.6 million in 2010-11.¹
- Eliminate the CalWORKs Program if the state does not receive \$6.9 billion in additional federal funds, as assumed in the Governor's Proposed 2010-11 Budget. This proposal would terminate cash assistance and a range of services for more than 1.4 million low-income children and parents as of October 1, 2010.² Eliminating CalWORKs would cause California to lose three-quarters (\$2.8 billion) of the state's federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant in 2010-11, and to lose the state's entire annual \$3.7 billion TANF block grant every year thereafter.³ In addition, an estimated \$1.8 billion in state and county CalWORKs funds would not be available to help low-income families with children in 2010-11.⁴ Moreover, California could lose more than \$500 million in additional federal funds to help offset state expenditures for CalWORKs in 2010-11 if Congress extends a key provision of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).⁵

¹ This proposal would take effect on June 1, 2010. The DSS was not able to provide information on the geographic distribution of legal immigrants who would be affected by this proposal. Therefore, the CBP could not develop local estimates of the impact of this proposal.

² This estimate includes roughly 8,700 individuals who do not receive cash assistance, but who can receive the full range of CalWORKs services.

³ California uses TANF dollars to fund CalWORKs and a range of other program costs that would otherwise be supported by the state's General Fund.

⁴ Some families who would lose CalWORKs cash assistance could become eligible for county-funded General Assistance. Therefore, this proposal could result in a potentially significant cost shift to counties.

⁵ These funds are provided through the ARRA's Emergency Contingency Fund (ECF), which provides increased federal funding for TANF-related assistance. The \$500 million figure reflects a CBP estimate of forgone ECF funds between October 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011 and assumes that Congress extends the ECF beyond the current expiration date of September 30, 2010.

Estimated Impact of Governor's Major CalWORKs Program Proposals by Senate District

		Reduce CalWORKs Payments by 15.7 Percent			Eliminate CalWORKs Program	
Senate District	Senator	Number of Recipients for Whom Cash Assistance Would Be Reduced	Number of Recipients Who Would Lose All Cash Assistance	Total Loss of Funds, June 2010 Through June 2011	Number of Recipients Who Would Lose Cash Assistance and Services	Total Loss of Funds, October 2010 Through June 2011
1	Cox	25,670	370	\$11,847,000	26,640	\$84,061,000
2	Wiggins	27,110	400	\$12,511,000	28,130	\$88,776,000
3	Leno	14,260	210	\$6,583,000	14,800	\$46,712,000
4	Aanestad	40,070	580	\$18,493,000	41,580	\$131,226,000
5	Wolk	48,820	710	\$22,529,000	50,650	\$159,859,000
6	Steinberg	68,040	990	\$31,399,000	70,600	\$222,799,000
7	DeSaulnier	21,590	310	\$9,963,000	22,400	\$70,695,000
8	Yee	7,900	120	\$3,647,000	8,200	\$25,876,000
9	Hancock	38,100	560	\$17,583,000	39,530	\$124,766,000
10	Corbett	22,460	330	\$10,364,000	23,300	\$73,541,000
11	Simitian	12,540	180	\$5,785,000	13,010	\$41,052,000
12	Denham	55,360	810	\$25,550,000	57,440	\$181,298,000
13	Alquist	28,730	420	\$13,258,000	29,810	\$94,074,000
14	Cogdill	59,100	860	\$27,275,000	61,320	\$193,539,000
15	Maldonado	21,190	310	\$9,780,000	21,990	\$69,400,000
16	Florez	78,470	1,140	\$36,213,000	81,420	\$256,962,000
17	Runner	58,070	850	\$26,798,000	60,250	\$190,154,000
18	Ashburn	69,180	1,010	\$31,924,000	71,780	\$226,531,000
19	Strickland	13,550	200	\$6,253,000	14,060	\$44,368,000
20	Padilla	34,690	510	\$16,011,000	36,000	\$113,612,000
21	Liu	23,470	340	\$10,834,000	24,360	\$76,874,000
22	Cedillo	50,460	740	\$23,287,000	52,360	\$165,239,000
23	Pavley	14,480	210	\$6,685,000	15,030	\$47,433,000
24	Romero	38,100	560	\$17,583,000	39,530	\$124,764,000
25	Wright	68,460	1,000	\$31,596,000	71,040	\$224,200,000
26	Price	53,280	780	\$24,589,000	55,280	\$174,476,000
27	Lowenthal	40,450	590	\$18,669,000	41,980	\$132,475,000
28	Oropeza	17,820	260	\$8,222,000	18,490	\$58,340,000
29	Huff	11,970	170	\$5,524,000	12,420	\$39,201,000
30	Calderon	39,150	570	\$18,066,000	40,620	\$128,190,000
31	Dutton	39,270	570	\$18,125,000	40,750	\$128,609,000
32	Negrete McLeod	64,280	940	\$29,663,000	66,690	\$210,485,000
33	Walters	11,170	160	\$5,156,000	11,590	\$36,583,000
34	Correa	30,700	450	\$14,167,000	31,850	\$100,526,000
35	Harman	9,190	130	\$4,240,000	9,530	\$30,086,000
36	Hollingsworth	20,980	310	\$9,681,000	21,770	\$68,696,000
37	Vacancy	45,840	670	\$21,156,000	47,570	\$150,117,000
38	Wyland	12,400	180	\$5,722,000	12,870	\$40,605,000
39	Kehoe	21,430	310	\$9,892,000	22,240	\$70,193,000
40	Ducheny	49,260	720	\$22,731,000	51,110	\$161,298,000
	Total	1,407,040	20,500	\$649,351,000	1,459,970	\$4,607,691,000

Estimated Impact of Governor's Major CalWORKs Program Proposals by Assembly District

		Reduce CalWORKs Payments by 15.7 Percent			Eliminate CalWORKs Program	
Assembly District	Assemblymember	Number of Recipients for Whom Cash Assistance Would Be Reduced	Number of Recipients Who Would Lose All Cash Assistance	Total Loss of Funds, June 2010 Through June 2011	Number of Recipients Who Would Lose Cash Assistance and Services	Total Loss of Funds, October 2010 Through June 2011
1	Chesbro	15,620	230	\$7,207,000	16,200	\$51,141,000
2	Nielsen	21,760	320	\$10,042,000	22,580	\$71,256,000
3	Logue	17,530	260	\$8,089,000	18,190	\$57,402,000
4	Gaines	13,190	190	\$6,087,000	13,680	\$43,190,000
5	Niello	23,280	340	\$10,745,000	24,160	\$76,242,000
6	Huffman	5,550	80	\$2,560,000	5,760	\$18,165,000
7	Evans	13,790	200	\$6,363,000	14,310	\$45,153,000
8	Yamada	13,970	200	\$6,449,000	14,500	\$45,759,000
9	Jones	37,420	550	\$17,267,000	38,820	\$122,526,000
10	Huber	20,680	300	\$9,545,000	21,460	\$67,732,000
11	Torlakson	16,540	240	\$7,635,000	17,170	\$54,176,000
12	Ma	5,170	80	\$2,388,000	5,370	\$16,946,000
13	Ammiano	8,250	120	\$3,805,000	8,560	\$27,001,000
14	Skinner	10,620	150	\$4,900,000	11,020	\$34,771,000
15	Buchanan	11,410	170	\$5,264,000	11,830	\$37,350,000
16	Swanson	23,930	350	\$11,042,000	24,830	\$78,351,000
17	Galgiani	38,680	560	\$17,850,000	40,130	\$126,661,000
18	Hayashi	16,120	230	\$7,438,000	16,720	\$52,778,000
19	Hill	2,710	40	\$1,249,000	2,810	\$8,862,000
20	Torrico	8,260	120	\$3,810,000	8,570	\$27,037,000
21	Ruskin	4,240	60	\$1,957,000	4,400	\$13,885,000
22	Fong	5,100	70	\$2,353,000	5,290	\$16,698,000
23	Coto	19,610	290	\$9,048,000	20,340	\$64,206,000
24	Beall	9,520	140	\$4,392,000	9,870	\$31,166,000
25	T. Berryhill	22,690	330	\$10,470,000	23,540	\$74,296,000
26	B. Berryhill	32,140	470	\$14,833,000	33,350	\$105,253,000
27	Monning	8,670	130	\$4,000,000	8,990	\$28,380,000
28	Caballero	16,650	240	\$7,684,000	17,280	\$54,524,000
29	Villines	29,660	430	\$13,689,000	30,780	\$97,137,000
30	Gilmore	34,760	510	\$16,041,000	36,070	\$113,823,000
31	Arambula	46,420	680	\$21,422,000	48,160	\$152,004,000
32	Fuller	28,470	410	\$13,140,000	29,540	\$93,239,000
33	Blakeslee	14,150	210	\$6,532,000	14,690	\$46,349,000
34	Conway	37,740	550	\$17,419,000	39,160	\$123,602,000
35	Nava	9,680	140	\$4,468,000	10,050	\$31,702,000
36	Knight	42,780	620	\$19,745,000	44,390	\$140,104,000
37	Strickland	7,420	110	\$3,423,000	7,700	\$24,286,000
38	Smyth	7,890	120	\$3,642,000	8,190	\$25,844,000
39	Fuentes	19,950	290	\$9,205,000	20,700	\$65,319,000
40	Blumenfield	13,800	200	\$6,367,000	14,320	\$45,183,000
41	Brownley	7,510	110	\$3,466,000	7,790	\$24,597,000
42	Feuer	5,100	70	\$2,352,000	5,290	\$16,688,000
43	Vacancy	13,810	200	\$6,373,000	14,330	\$45,220,000
44	Portantino	10,130	150	\$4,676,000	10,510	\$33,183,000
45	de León	20,130	290	\$9,292,000	20,890	\$65,936,000
46	J. Pérez	32,900	480	\$15,182,000	34,140	\$107,731,000

Estimated Impact of Governor's Major CalWORKs Program Proposals by Assembly District

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Assembly District	Assemblymember	Number of Recipients for Whom Cash Assistance Would Be Reduced	Number of Recipients Who Would Lose All Cash Assistance	Total Loss of Funds, June 2010 Through June 2011	Number of Recipients Who Would Lose Cash Assistance and Services	Total Loss of Funds, October 2010 Through June 2011
47	Bass	15,860	230	\$7,319,000	16,450	\$51,931,000
48	Davis	35,980	520	\$16,607,000	37,340	\$117,840,000
49	Eng	15,260	220	\$7,042,000	15,830	\$49,971,000
50	De La Torre	25,760	380	\$11,890,000	26,730	\$84,370,000
51	Bradford	22,940	330	\$10,586,000	23,800	\$75,116,000
52	Hall	52,150	760	\$24,069,000	54,120	\$170,789,000
53	Lieu	3,890	60	\$1,796,000	4,040	\$12,744,000
54	Lowenthal	14,480	210	\$6,684,000	15,030	\$47,426,000
55	Furutani	23,820	350	\$10,991,000	24,710	\$77,993,000
56	Mendoza	13,170	190	\$6,078,000	13,670	\$43,130,000
57	Hernandez	15,900	230	\$7,337,000	16,500	\$52,061,000
58	Calderon	15,090	220	\$6,964,000	15,660	\$49,414,000
59	Adams	21,970	320	\$10,138,000	22,790	\$71,935,000
60	Hagman	4,790	70	\$2,213,000	4,970	\$15,701,000
61	Torres	22,140	320	\$10,215,000	22,970	\$72,486,000
62	Carter	37,060	540	\$17,105,000	38,460	\$121,372,000
63	Emmerson	21,670	320	\$10,001,000	22,490	\$70,965,000
64	Nestande	20,930	310	\$9,659,000	21,720	\$68,541,000
65	Cook	27,390	400	\$12,639,000	28,420	\$89,687,000
66	Jeffries	14,090	210	\$6,502,000	14,620	\$46,139,000
67	Silva	6,770	100	\$3,124,000	7,020	\$22,169,000
68	Tran	9,900	140	\$4,567,000	10,270	\$32,410,000
69	Solorio	16,470	240	\$7,603,000	17,090	\$53,950,000
70	DeVore	2,910	40	\$1,343,000	3,020	\$9,527,000
71	Miller	7,250	110	\$3,344,000	7,520	\$23,730,000
72	Norby	10,410	150	\$4,802,000	10,800	\$34,075,000
73	Harkey	4,260	60	\$1,965,000	4,420	\$13,944,000
74	Garrick	5,500	80	\$2,536,000	5,700	\$17,997,000
75	Fletcher	5,070	70	\$2,340,000	5,260	\$16,605,000
76	Saldaña	8,590	130	\$3,966,000	8,920	\$28,145,000
77	Anderson	12,650	180	\$5,837,000	13,120	\$41,419,000
78	Block	17,790	260	\$8,210,000	18,460	\$58,256,000
79	Salas	21,080	310	\$9,729,000	21,870	\$69,033,000
80	V. Pérez	28,690	420	\$13,242,000	29,770	\$93,966,000
	Total	1,407,040	20,500	\$649,351,000	1,459,970	\$4,607,691,000

Note: As displayed in this table, the impact of reducing CalWORKs grants is discrete from the impact of eliminating CalWORKs; therefore, the lost funds associated with each proposal should not be combined. Total recipients whose grant would be reduced under the grant reduction proposal is based on a Department of Social Services (DSS) projection of the average monthly number of CalWORKs cash assistance recipients in 2010-11, assuming the elimination of eligibility for recent legal immigrants. Total recipients who would lose their entire grant under this proposal is based on a DSS projection of the number of families affected (8,400), adjusted by the CBP to reflect the average number of persons per family for families receiving cash assistance. Total loss of funds under this proposal is a DSS estimate of grant savings. Total recipients who would be affected by the CalWORKs elimination proposal reflects the average monthly CalWORKs caseload in 2010-11 based on a DSS forecast, adjusted by the CBP to represent the projected caseload assuming the Governor's proposals are not enacted and to include families who receive CalWORKs services but not cash assistance. Total loss of funds under the proposal to eliminate CalWORKs reflects federal, state, and county dollars and is based on a CBP projection of 2010-11 CalWORKs cash assistance, services, Stage 1 child care, and administrative expenditures for more than 1.4 million recipients under current law, adjusted to reflect the Governor's proposed implementation date of October 1, 2010. Legislative district estimates reflect aggregated zip code data and are based on each district's share of the statewide CalWORKs caseload in September 2009. Estimates of affected recipients are rounded to the nearest 10, and estimates of loss of funds are rounded to the nearest \$1,000. Legislative district estimates may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: CBP analysis of Department of Social Services data