

## Proposed Budget Revisions go to the Floor ... ask for reinstatement of Prop 36 funds.

The Conference Committee's actions would change both the current (2008-09) and budget (2009-10) years' spending plans. Last week, a conference committee of 10 legislators completed work on adjustments to the 2008-09 and 2009-10 spending plans aimed at closing a \$19.5 billion shortfall.



The Budget Conference Committee rejected the Governor's proposals to eliminate major state programs, including the Healthy Families, CalWORKs, and Cal Grants programs.

Funding for Prop 36 (\$90 million) was cut with the expectation that funding would be backfilled by stimulus funds on a one time basis. The Committee also approved a 10% rate cut to Drug MediCal. Senators Denise Ducheny and Mark Leno noted their hope that the Prop 36 funds would be restored when the state economy is better. However, there is no guarantee that all \$90 million will be backfilled with stimulus funds.

The Committee approved the funding for the OTP program at \$18 million. The Committee also rejected the Governor's proposal to cut \$485 million from the CDCR budget by eliminating all in-custody programs, including substance abuse treatment; instead, it crafted its own plan that reduces in-custody programs by \$175 million. Also included in the plan is a change in sentencing laws (making them misdemeanors instead of "wobblers"- where conviction can be considered either a felony or misdemeanor), early release with surveillance, and deportation of undocumented inmates.

In a related action, the Conference Committee also recommended that the CalWORKs Mental Health and AOD funds be retained, but that counties be given the flexibility to move money from these accounts into other CalWORKs services, if needed.

A synopsis of the sweeping cuts made by the two-house conference committee is below, courtesy of the California Budget Project.

### Health care cuts:

- \$323.2 million from MediCal,
- \$1 billion from MediCal if the state can secure more money from the federal government.
- \$64 million from state mental health programs.
- \$25.6 from county health services.
- \$18 million from the state's immunization program.
- \$4.1 million in funding for domestic violence shelters.
- \$3.1 million for Alzheimer's research.
- \$4.5 million for HIV/AIDS Services

### Human services cuts:

- \$90 million from Prop 36
- \$240 million from CalWORKs,
- \$155 million from supplemental security income grants - cuts grants for individuals by \$5 per month.
- \$26.6 million from group homes and foster family agencies.
- \$7.7 million by cutting support for statewide fingerprint imaging system.

### Public safety cuts:

- \$1.2 billion from Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation • \$169 million from judicial branch - in party by closing courts one day a month.
- \$40 million from state Department of Justice.

### Tax and fee increases

The Conference Committee also approved (on a partisan vote) four taxes: oil extraction, taking a 4.8% increase on property insurance; a \$15 annual increase on Vehicle License fees to fund state parks; and an additional \$1.50 tax on a package of cigarettes. The alcohol tax, part of early discussions on revenue increases, was omitted from the final package.

**The budget will be voted on by the Assembly and Senate this week. It is not too late to call your elected officials and ask that the full \$90 million of Prop. 36 funds be reinstated to the budget.**

**It is only by large numbers of people continuing to tell legislators that substance abuse treatment saves lives and taxpayers money that the message will achieve the critical mass necessary for action.**

**The phone number of your legislator can be found at [www.senate.ca.gov](http://www.senate.ca.gov) and [www.assembly.ca.gov](http://www.assembly.ca.gov). Talking points can be found in the sample letter published with the *Weekly Memo* on 6/12 and 6/5.**

The plan is due for a vote by the full legislature this week. Because of the inclusion of taxes and fees in the plan, the Governor announced last week, he will veto the plan if it comes to his desk.

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## Assembly unveils constituent survey

Members of the California Assembly have coordinated an effort to hear budget concerns directly from their constituents in the form of an online survey. The "Let Your Voice Be Heard" survey asks constituents about major philosophical splits in the consideration of increased taxes and painful cuts to some of California's essential health and human services programs.

Go the websites of local legislators by clicking on [www.assembly.ca.gov/clerk/](http://www.assembly.ca.gov/clerk/) [MEMBERINFORMATION/memberdir\\_1.asp](http://www.assembly.ca.gov/MemberInformation/memberdir_1.asp) If your assembly member does not have a link to the survey, it is also available on the website of Assembly Select Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse chairman Jim Beall, Jr. at [http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a24/FightingForOurFamilies/default.aspx?utm\\_source=email&utm\\_medium=ealert&utm\\_campaign=Beall\\_BudgetSurvey](http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a24/FightingForOurFamilies/default.aspx?utm_source=email&utm_medium=ealert&utm_campaign=Beall_BudgetSurvey)

Assembly Member Beall's website includes a video highlighting what would happen if the legislature accepts the Governor's proposals without any modifications. He warns, "the picture is not pretty."

## Governor announces new "Waste Watcher" feature on website

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has announced a new feature called "Waste Watchers" on his website at [www.gov.ca.gov](http://www.gov.ca.gov) and his [www.ReportingTransparency.ca.gov](http://www.ReportingTransparency.ca.gov) website. The Waste Watchers site allows state employees and other Californians to go online and report any government waste they may be aware of, either anonymously or by name. The Administration will monitor the site and investigate submissions.

## Buprenorphine survey on line

CAADPE is conducting a survey of treatment providers in order to gauge the knowledge and utilization of those in the alcohol and drug field for medication assisted treatments, particularly buprenorphine. The information from the survey will be used to help CAADPE formulate recommendations about programs that best meet provider needs.

Please take a minute to fill out the survey. Copy the link below and paste it into your browser, then answer the few short questions that will help CAADPE be proactive in its efforts to support ALL of California's treatment programs. Link to the survey is [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=pDN4HNk\\_2fyqhWlQIZFpEKFA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=pDN4HNk_2fyqhWlQIZFpEKFA_3d_3d)



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### Save the Date

**June Regional Trainings on Trauma Informed Care for Substance Abuse Professionals** This training will provide participants with an overview of the overwhelming effects of trauma, trauma-informed care, trauma-informed services and the physiological responses to trauma. This training will highlight best practices on trauma issues impacting clients, including veterans, how being trauma-informed changes your perspective of individuals from "what's wrong with you" to "what happened to you". June 22<sup>nd</sup> - Southern California; June 23<sup>rd</sup> - Sacramento Area; June 24<sup>th</sup> - Bay Area; June 26<sup>th</sup> - Northern California. Visit <http://www.cce.csus.edu/conferences/adp/rttic09/> for a PDF brochure, agenda, and registration and continuing education information.

**June 24 Counselor Certification Advisory Committee Meeting** This advisory committee meeting is designed to provide information and to foster discussion regarding issues and regulations associated with counselor certification. ADP First Floor Conference Room, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Contact: (916) 324-5523

**September 28 Effective Clinical Supervision: Clinical Supervision in Practical Application** (How to Support Positive Treatment Outcomes) L.A. CADA sponsors trainer Alan Lyme, LCSW (*national trainer and author*). CE units available. 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Location: The California Endowment 1000 North Alameda St, Los Angeles. Call 562.906.2686 for more information

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