



# 2017-2018 State Budget Conference Committee

## CCWRO Recipient Impact Statement & Recipient Recommendation

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2017-2018 State Budget Conference Committee Members				
Conference Committee members	Room #	Telephone	Staff	Staff Email
Senate - Holly Mitchell(D) (Chair),	5060	651-4030	Luan Huynh	<a href="mailto:luan.huynh@sen.ca.gov">luan.huynh@sen.ca.gov</a>
Ricardo Lara(D),	5050	651-4033	Daisy Luna	<a href="mailto:daisy.luna@sen.ca.gov">daisy.luna@sen.ca.gov</a>
Richard Roth(D),	4034	651-4031	Mathew Montgomery	<a href="mailto:mathew.montgomery@sen.ca.gov">mathew.montgomery@sen.ca.gov</a>
Jim Nielsen (R)	2068	651-4004	Colin Sueyres	<a href="mailto:colin.sueyres@sen.ca.gov">colin.sueyres@sen.ca.gov</a>
John Moorlach (R)	2048	651-4037	James Moore	<a href="mailto:james.moore@sen.ca.gov">james.moore@sen.ca.gov</a>
Assembly - Philip Ting (D) (Co-Chair),	6026	319-2019	Nicole Vasquez	<a href="mailto:nicole.vazquez@asm.ca.gov">nicole.vazquez@asm.ca.gov</a>
Kevin McCarty (D)	2026	319-2007	Bryan Singh	<a href="mailto:bryan.singh@asm.ca.gov">bryan.singh@asm.ca.gov</a>
Shirley Weber (D)	3123	319-2079	Crystal Quezada	<a href="mailto:crystal.quezada@asm.ca.gov">crystal.quezada@asm.ca.gov</a>
Peter Chen(R)	4177	319-2055	Lauren Aguilar	<a href="mailto:lauren.aguilar@asm.ca.gov">lauren.aguilar@asm.ca.gov</a>
Jay Obernolte(R)	4116	319-2033	Teresa Trujillo	<a href="mailto:teresa.trujillo@asm.ca.gov">teresa.trujillo@asm.ca.gov</a>

Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations Inc. (CCWRO)  
 1111 Howe Ave., Suite 150, Sacramento, CA 95825-8551 • Tel. 916-712-0071  
 • Email: [kevin.aslanian@ccwro.org](mailto:kevin.aslanian@ccwro.org)

### Maximim CalWORKs (AFDC) Grant Levels TODAY

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	\$331	\$541	\$670	\$799	\$909	\$1,010	\$1,120	\$1,222	\$1,321	\$1,41

### Maximum CalWORKs (AFDC) Grant Levels Effective July 1, 1988 - 28 years ago

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	\$326	\$535	\$663	\$788	\$899	\$1,010	\$1,109	\$1,209	\$1,306	\$1,403



# STOP California's

**“State Child Abuse”**  
**of About 1 Million**  
**Poor CalWORKs**  
**Children Living in**  
**Deep Poverty**

**NOW!**

**NOW!**



**Available  
 Funds for  
 CalWORKs  
 in 2017-2018**

**\$7.4 Billion**

**Governor's  
 Proposed 2017-  
 2018 May  
 Revised  
 CalWORKs  
 Budget**

**\$5 Billion**  
**68%**

 **taken out of  
 the Mouths  
 of Poor  
 CalWORKs  
 Children to  
 Increase the State  
 General Fund**

**\$2.4 Billion**  
**32%**

Source -Page 49: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/Estimates/ReferenceDocuments.pdf?ver=2017-05-11-101303-790>



**CONTACT PERSON: Kevin Aslanian**  
 Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, CCWRO  
 1111 Howe Ave., Suite 150, Sacramento, CA 95825, Tel. 916-712-0071 Email: kevin.aslanian@ccwro.org

Issue	Description
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**SSI/SSP and CalWORKs**

**Issue 24: Reinstate SSI/SSP and CalWORKs Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs)**

**Governor** had no proposal.

**Senate** had no proposal.

**Assembly** proposed to adopt placeholder trailer bill language to reinstate the statutory COLAs for the state portion of the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) grants and CalWORKs maximum aid payments, starting January 1, 2021. The first year costs of the COLAs is a combined \$100 million General Fund (\$45 million for six months of the SSP COLA and \$55 million for six months of the CalWORKs COLA).

**Conference issue** is whether or not to reinstate the statutory COLAs for SSI/SSP and CalWORKs at a combined projected cost of \$100 million General Fund for the 2020-21 fiscal year, beginning January 1, 2021.



**CCWRO Recipient Impact Statement & Recipient Recommendation**

**Support Assembly Version effective October 1, 2017 in lieu of effective 1-1-2021.** The budget proposal would snatch over \$2 billion from the mouths of CalWORKs children living in deep poverty.

A CalWORKs and SSI COLA would only cost less than 5% of the over \$2 billion that the budget would take away from the CalWORKs program in 2017-2018.

Over 1 million California children are enduring the highest rate of poverty in the nation based on the supplemental poverty rate – living in deep poverty receiving a fixed cash aid benefits that is equal to 31% of the of the federal poverty level. Deep poverty causes irreparable harm to the brain development of CalWORKs children as evidenced by recent research. **This is “California State Child Abuse” that needs to stop now. No child should be living on a fixed income that is less than 100% of the federal poverty level. Restoring the COLA now would be a small step to this end.**

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Issue	Description
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CalWORKs

**Issue 25: Single Allocation Funding**

**Governor** proposed to reduce the CalWORKs Single Allocation by \$245 million in 2017-18.

**Senate** proposed to provide a total of \$100 million General Fund in 2017-18 to augment the Single Allocation.

**Assembly** proposed to provide a total of \$140 million General Fund in 2017-18 to augment the Single Allocation.

**Conference issue** is how much General Fund assistance to provide counties in the face of reduced Single Allocation funding.



**CWRO Recipient Impact Statement & Recipient Recommendation**

**Support Assembly Version with the provision that for every \$1 of increased administrative expenditures for counties must also include \$1 increase for payments to CalWORKs families.** Over 1 million California children are enduring the highest rate of poverty in the nation based on the supplemental poverty rate – living in deep poverty receiving a fixed cash aid benefits that is equal to 31% of the of the federal poverty level. Deep poverty causes irreparable harm to the brain development of CalWORKs children as evidenced by recent research. **This is “California State Child Abuse” that needs to stop now. No child should be living on a fixed income that is less than 100% of the federal poverty level.**

**Issue** **Description**

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**CalWORKs**

**Issue 26: Home Visiting and Diaper Assistance**

**Governor** had no proposal.

**Senate** had no proposal.

**Assembly** proposed to provide \$100 million General Fund ongoing for creating a CalWORKs Baby Wellness and Family Support Home Visiting Program and for the creation of a Diaper Assistance Benefit in the CalWORKs benefit, starting April 1, 2018, at a cost of \$3.6 million General Fund in 2017-18, and \$13 million on going, with placeholder trailer bill language for each.

**Conference issue** is whether or not to provide \$100 million General Fund ongoing for both a Home Visiting Program and a Diaper Assistance Benefit.



**CWRO Recipient Impact Statement & Recipient Recommendation**

**Support Assembly Version with the provision that for every dollar of increased administrative expenditures for counties should also include a dollar increase for payments to CalWORKs families.** Over 1 million California children are enduring the highest rate of poverty in the nation based on the supplemental poverty rate – living in deep poverty receiving a fixed cash aid benefits that is equal to 31% of the of the federal poverty level. Deep poverty causes irreparable harm to the brain development of CalWORKs children as evidenced by recent research. **This is “California State Child Abuse” that needs to stop now. No child should be living on a fixed income that is less than 100% of the federal poverty level.**

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Issue	Description
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**CalWORKs**

**Issue 27: Educational Incentive Grants**

**Governor** had no proposal.

**Senate** had no proposal.

**Assembly** proposed to provide \$13 million General Fund as a placeholder amount that could fund educational grants and stipends for qualified individuals, as well as additional funding for Community Colleges CalWORKs program services, and placeholder trailer bill language related to this action.

**Conference issue** is whether or not to provide \$13 million General Fund for CalWORKs educational incentive grants.



**CWRO Recipient Impact Statement & Recipient Recommendation**

**Support Assembly Version ONLY if the trailer bill language is amended** to include to CalWORKs parents attending college while enduring a reduction of aid for having the audacity going to college to obtain the necessary tools to compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century “knowledge based economy” that requires a college degree. The reduction benefits of these heroes, mostly women, a family of 2, is from \$577 a month down to \$355 a month. The Mayes bill will continue this inhumane punishment to CalWORKs poor women.

Issue Description

CalFresh

Issue 29: Protecting Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs)

Governor had no proposal.

Senate adopted placeholder trailer bill language aimed at protecting ABAWDs from an expiring federal waiver in September 2018, that: 1) authorizes self-initiated volunteer work to be performed in order to qualify for the ABAWDs exemption to the maximum extent permitted by federal law; and 2) requires the state to maximize federal exemptions to the ABAWD limit for homeless Californians.

Assembly adopted placeholder trailer bill language aimed at protecting ABAWDs from an expiring federal waiver that: 1) removes the ability of a county with high unemployment to opt out of provisions allowing it to continue providing benefits as under the current statewide waiver; 2) authorizes self-initiated volunteer work to be performed in order to qualify for the ABAWDs exemption to the maximum extent permitted by federal law; and 3) requires the state to maximize federal exemptions to the ABAWD limit for homeless Californians.

Conference issue is whether or not to include the county opt-out language in the trailer bill related to protecting ABAWDs.



CWRO Recipient Impact Statement & Recipient Recommendation

Support Assembly Version. The CalFresh program is a statewide program administered by the single state agency – State Department of Social Services-making sure Californians do not endure hunger.

This provision has been supported by county representatives in the past and they have not opposed this budget “opt-out language.

The ABAWDS rule would sentence thousands of impoverished Californians to “hunger” which is unacceptable for California and our society.