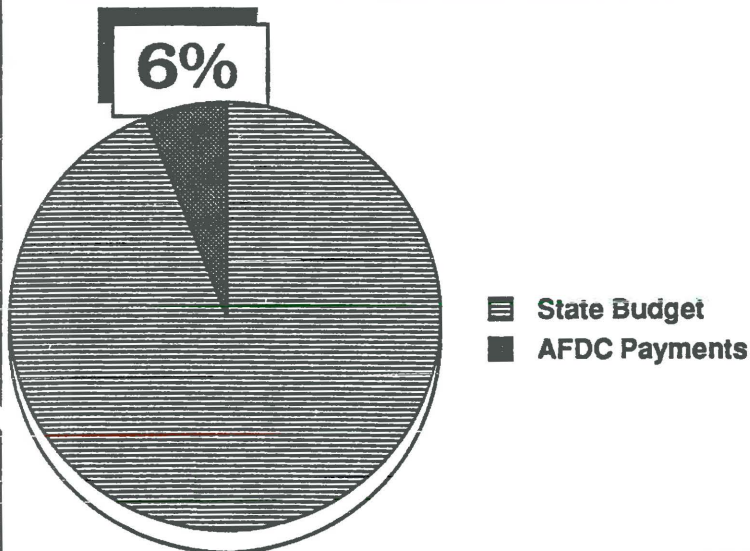


ANALYSIS OF PROP. 165 ANTI-FAMILY & ANTI-POOR CHILDREN INITIATIVE

According to Pete Wilson and his Administration:

- **The average stay on welfare is 17 months.**
- **About 87% of the children receiving AFDC benefits are citizens of the United States.**
- **6.6% of the AFDC children in California formerly lived in another State, but many were born in California and only 44% of the 6.6% received AFDC in the State they came from.**
- **The initiative can jeopardize all federal funding for medical assistance to the impoverished, aged, blind, disabled and families with children of California.**



This graph reveals that Pete Wilson's initiative addresses only 6% of the California State Budget. It appears that Pete Wilson is trying to convince the people of California that the biggest problem with the budget is the 6% expenditures for poor families and children, rather than the Reagan-Bush-Wilson recession.

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Budget act proposal • • • • • Page 1

Welfare proposal- Reduction of AFDC benefits by 25% • • • • • 2

Abolition of the AFDC COLA 3

Denial of AFDC benefits to a teenage mother with children because they are not living with their parents or legal guardians • • • • • 4

Denial of cash aid to a child conceived while receiving AFDC benefits 5

Denian of aid to pregnant women • • • • • 6

Reducing and increasing AFDC benefits based on AFDC teen parent and high school children's attendance in high school • • • • • 7

Paying a lesser amount to families who move to California and become in need of assistance • • • • • 8

Reduction of supplemental security income benefits • • • • • 9

Conclusion • • • • • 10

How do Americans feel about the poor and welfare recipients? • • • • • 11

What do others say about the Pete Wilson welfare initiative • • • • • 12

Costs and savings of the Wilson welfare initiative • • • • • 13

Are AFDC children living with their parents the real cause of the alleged increase costs of AFDC? • • • • • 14

Alternative budget savings without hurting one poor child • • • • • 17

The Truth About Welfare • • • • • 19

• Graph Revealing How Much is Really Spent on Welfare • • • • • 20

• Graph Revealing that California's population has Increased at a higher Rate than the AFDC Caseload • • • • • 21

• Graph Revealing that Majority of Welfare Recipients are White/Caucasian 22

• Graph Revealing that Majority of AFDC Recipients are U.S. Citizens • • • • • 23

• Graph Showing Who Really Receives AFDC 24

• Graph Revealing that Majority of Families on AFDC Stop Receiving Welfare Through Marriage Rather than Employment • • • • • 25

• Graph Revealing the Reasons Why Families Apply for AFDC • • • • • 26

• Graph Revealing that in Terms of 1991 Dollars AFDC Grants in California Has Decreased by 21% from 1972 to 1991 • • • • • 27

• Graph Revealing the Housing Impact of the Pete Wilson Initiative • • • • • 28

BUDGET ACT PROPOSAL

1. If a budget bill is not passed by June 15 of each year the Governor and the Legislators will forfeit their salaries;
2. If the budget bill is not signed by the Governor on or before July 1 of any year, even if it is passed by the Legislature, the governor can use last year's budget to keep the State government operating and can cut any program he or she wishes to cut, without any legislative authorization, provided the program cutting is not protected by the California Constitution.
3. Even if the budget bill is signed by the Governor, he or she can still declare a fiscal emergency if the cash receipts fall under 3% of the amount that he estimated when the budget was passed. Under this scenario, the Governor can overestimate receipts, sign the budget, then declare a fiscal emergency and then, without any legislative authority, cut any program not protected by the Constitution. The initiative also authorizes the Governor to reduce state employee pay by five percent.
4. The Governor also has the authority to reduce State employees salaries by five (5) percent, or furlough state employees if he or she declares a fiscal emergency.

CALIFORNIANS IMPACT STATEMENT

This proposal gives the Governor enormous powers in that all he or she has to do is refuse to sign any budget that he receives and he can run the State for years without any approval from the Legislators elected by the People of California. This violates the American concept of government through checks and balances and makes the Governor a dictator.

WELFARE PROPOSAL

1. Reduction of AFDC benefits by 25%

Current law will be amended to provide for a 10% reduction in AFDC benefits during the first six (6) months on AFDC and another 15 percent thereafter for all able-bodied persons. As defined, "able-bodied persons" include everyone except women who are over 60 years old or those who receive Supplemental Security Income benefits.

FAMILY-CHILD IMPACT STATEMENT

• In real terms, the following chart demonstrates what will happen to the AFDC grant compared to the level of grants before Pete Wilson was elected Governor.

PERSONS	1990-1991	1991-1992	25% CUT IN AFDC
1	341	326	245
2	560	535	401
3	694	663	497
4	824	788	591
5	940	899	674

• Families will not be able to "family" given the lack of finances. Children will end up in foster care at the cost of up to \$5,013* per month to group homes, given the lack of foster care homes currently in California.

• This AFDC grant cut would reduce benefits in excess of the amount allowed under federal law, **thus California would not receive any federal funding for the Medi-Cal program.**

*This is the "standard rate" of payment for group homes.

2. Abolition of the AFDC Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)

The AFDC COLA was a proposal put forward and signed into law by Ronald Reagan in 1971, when he was governor of California. While Governor, he honored his commitment to pay decent benefits to impoverished families. After Reagan left the California Governorship, Republicans and Democrats launched numerous successful attacks against the meager benefits of poor women with children.

FAMILY-CHILD IMPACT STATEMENT

• Of all of the various COLA's in the statute, Republicans and this initiative only attack the COLA for impoverished families and children while many other COLA's go untouched. The COLA's that are not untouched by this initiative are:

- **County Health (AB 8)**
- **Noncontract Hospital, (including PHPs and RHK)**
- **Beneficiary Spin-off**
- **Drug Ingredients**
- **IHHS**
- **K-12-District Revenue Limits**
- **Meals for Needy Pupils**
- **Summer School**
- **K-12- County Office of Education**
- **Court-Ordered Desegregation**
- **Voluntary Desegregation**
- **Special Education**
- **Gifted and Talented**
- **Adult Education**
- **Adults in Correctional Facilities**
- **School Improvement Program (K-6)**
- **Board of Governor's. California Community Colleges**
- **State Contributions to State Teachers Retirement System**

3. Denial of AFDC benefits to teenage mothers with children because they are not living with their parents or legal guardians

The initiative proposes that any individual under the age of 18 who has a dependent child (does not include unborn children) can only receive AFDC benefits if such individual lives with his or her parent or legal guardian. Aid shall be paid to the parent or guardian. There are some exceptions to this rule. For example:

- (1) Such individual has no parent or legal guardian of his or her own who is living and whose whereabouts are known;
- (2) The living parent or guardian won't let the individual live with them;
- (3) The welfare department decides that the teen's physical or emotional health and safety would be in danger if forced to live with the parent or guardian;
- (4) Such an individual has not been living with the parent or legal guardian for one year from the date of the birth of the child or date of application for AFDC.

FAMILY-CHILD IMPACT STATEMENT

- This initiative would deny AFDC benefits to a woman with a newborn just because her parents are "living" and their whereabouts are known. In a worst-case scenario, the parents could live in Hawaii. It appears that Governor Wilson believes that she can somehow go to Hawaii where her parents live. Nothing in the initiative addresses transportation if her parents cannot afford to fly her back to Hawaii. Many desperate women turn to prostitution and this initiative would exacerbate the desperation these women are already entrenched in.
- This initiative ignores the fact that often parents are angry because their daughter had a child out of wedlock and won't admit they threw her out of the house.
- This provision violates federal law, thus California could lose all federal funding for its AFDC and Medi-Cal Program.

4. Denial of cash aid to a child conceived while receiving AFDC benefits.

Any woman who has a child conceived while receiving AFDC benefits cannot receive aid for that child. It should also be noted that under the AFDC laws, if a woman has a child living with her for whom she is not receiving AFDC benefits, and has no other income, she can be prosecuted for "misuse of AFDC funds."

FAMILY-CHILD IMPACT STATEMENT

- Most women will be informed by their eligibility worker (upon reporting that they are pregnant) that if they have the child, they will be guilty of "misuse of AFDC funds". This will convince many women that their only choice is to have an abortion in order to avoid going to jail for "misuse of AFDC funds."
- This provision would also invade womens' religious freedom in that some women do not believe in sterilization or birth control.
- This provision is similar to Communist China's practice of dictating women's reproductive rights.
- This provision violates federal law, thus California could lose all federal funding for its AFDC and Medi-Cal Program.

5. Denial of Aid to Pregnant Women

Under current law, a pregnant woman can receive AFDC from the date she provides verification that she is pregnant. Under this initiative, pregnant women will receive no benefits until the child is born. During pregnancy, the pregnant woman is entitled to receive a Medi-Cal Card as well as food stamps.

FAMILY-CHILD IMPACT STATEMENT

- This bill would most likely force pregnant women into prostitution or other criminal activities in order to provide for themselves.
- This proposal would most likely encourage women to have an abortion rather than give birth to a sick, malnourished or retarded child given their inability to receive enough funds to house and feed themselves during the crucial months of pregnancy.
- Whatever savings this barbaric and racist-class proposal would garner for Pete Wilson, the cost of taking care of the number of disabled and ill newborn children would cost a hundred times more.

6. Reducing and Increasing AFDC Benefits based on AFDC teen parent and high school children's attendance in high school

Under this proposal, teen parents, including pregnant parents and teen AFDC children attending high school will receive an additional \$50 for attending high school, or an equivalent institution, including a training program. The proposal does not guarantee child care for the parents who are forced to go to school.

Current law denies AFDC benefits for AFDC children over the age of 16 who are not attending school or its equivalent. Teen parents between the ages of 18 and 19 are mandatory participants in the GAIN program.

FAMILY-CHILD IMPACT STATEMENT

- This proposal would force women to leave their newborn children at home without child care and go to school to make sure that their already 25% reduced AFDC grant of \$401 a month is not reduced to \$351 a month. Meanwhile, Child Protective Services would come to the rescue of the child and place the child in a group home who will receive up to the "standard rate" of payment of \$5,013 per month.
- Teen children could conceivably dictate to their parents when they can leave the house, otherwise they will stop attending school, thereby costing their parents \$50 a month. You can always count on Pete Wilson to find ways of sticking government into the lives of poor families of California.
- The initiative violates federal law, thus California could lose all federal funding for its AFDC and Medi-Cal Programs.
- *Some smaller California high schools do not allow pregnant teens in the classrooms and alternative school arrangements may not satisfy the welfare department.
- * Governor Wilson also ignores any additional administrative cost in monitoring school attendance.

7. Paying a lesser amount to families who move to California and become in need of assistance

Under this proposal, a family of three who moves to California from Alaska will receive \$923 a month, while that same family from Alabama will receive \$149 a month. The California grant levels under the Pete Wilson 25% reduction in AFDC payments will be \$497 a month.

FAMILY-CHILD IMPACT STATEMENT

- Statistics presented by the Governor reveal that less than 7% of the families receiving AFDC in California are from other states. Less than 45% of these new California residents received aid when they were in the other States.
- Many of these families lived in California at one time and are merely returning to the state of their birth, looking for work.
- This proposal does not recognize that many families are leaving California for other states given the high cost of living in California and the low AFDC payment levels. It appears that Pete Wilson is trying to "purify" California of the poor by driving them out of California.
- This proposal violates federal law, thus California could lose all federal funding for its AFDC and Medi-Cal Program.

8. Reduction in Supplemental Security Income Benefits

Under existing law, any federal SSI increase will not result in the reduction of State SSI Supplemental Payments. The Pete Wilson initiative would result in reducing California's share of SSI to offset any federal SSI cost of living increases. Thus, the amount of the SSI benefits to the aged, blind and disabled of California would remain the same.

HUMAN IMPACT STATEMENT

- This would force the impoverished, aged, blind and disabled of California into further and deeper poverty while Pete Wilson continues to enjoy a \$35,000 a year raise in his salary.

9. Reduction of General Assistance Grants

Under this proposal, general assistance grants cannot exceed \$245 a month for a single person. It also repeals a number of other general assistance sections that have been established in law for many years.

HUMAN IMPACT STATEMENT

- It appears that Pete Wilson not only holds contempt for poor children and families of California, but he also holds contempt for Viet Nam veterans and veterans of the Gulf War who are trying to survive on General Assistance. These people were the welcomed heroes, but now they are the targets of the Pete Wilson hate.
- We challenge Pete Wilson or his comrades to try to live on \$245 a month. General Assistance recipients do not have rich developer friends like "Mayor Wilson" had when he got a divorce and his developer friends provided him with free housing.

CONCLUSION

This initiative called "Government Accountability & Taxpayer Protection Act of 1992" gives the Governor the power to run the State without any interference from the Legislature by merely refusing to sign the budget which the representatives of the People passed. This tramples the California Constitution and will make the Governor a dictator.

This initiative would halt all federal funding for the Medi-Cal programs, thus depriving the aged, blind and disabled of medical services. The initiative fails to make government accountable for any of its misbehaviors or immoral acts.

Finally, not only do some of the welfare provisions violate federal law, but the initiative violates the single subject rule of the California Constitution. This amendment of the Constitution provides that any bill or initiative has to address one single subject. Clearly, this initiative does nothing about "accountability"; rather, it is designed to enhance the powers of the Governor in dealing with the California State Budget and make barbaric cuts in the AFDC program for families who are trying to raise their children.

This initiative only addresses payments to AFDC families and ignores the real cost of the AFDC program- the foster care program and the cost of administration. Foster care-group homes receive over \$5,000 per child. Pete Wilson has embarked upon the road of a coward--attack poor children and impoverished families and try to blame them for the Reagan-Bush-Wilson recession and the other economic problems that Californians are experiencing. He won't touch the special interests who contributed to his campaign-the county bureaucracy and the foster care industry and those in California who still refuse to pay their fair share of taxes-the rich and the big corporations.

This is a bad idea and does nothing to address the California fiscal crisis except for falsely making Californians believe that the Bush-Wilson economic crisis is the fault of poor children and their parents.

Pete Wilson has embarked upon the road of a coward--attack poor children and impoverished families and try to blame them for the Reagan-Bush-Wilson recession and the other economic problems that Californians are experiencing.

How do Californians Feel About the Pete Wilson Attack on Poor Children

87% of California's Democrats do not want the state budget balanced by taking food away from welfare children who need it.

70% of California's Republicans do not want the state budget balanced by taking food away from welfare children who need it.

83% of California's Democrats believe if welfare benefits are cut to AFDC families, the children will end up being the biggest losers.

60% of California's Republicans believe if welfare benefits are cut to AFDC families, the children will end up being the biggest losers.

71% of California's Democrats agree that the people on AFDC are really poor and desperately need the assistance.

57% of California's Republicans agree that the people on AFDC are really poor and desperately need the assistance.

74% of California's Democrats **OPPOSE** reducing AFDC benefits by 10%.

46% of California's Republicans **OPPOSE** reducing AFDC benefits by 10%.

70% of California's Democrats **OPPOSE** the elimination of the cost-of-living adjustment for AFDC families.

52% of California's Republicans **OPPOSE** the elimination of the cost-of-living adjustment for AFDC families.

THE PETE WILSON INITIATIVE AT A GLANCE

1. Would allow the Governor to ignore the budget passed by a by 2/3 vote the Legislature by not signing the budget and continue to operate the State with the previous year's budget and make any reductions he feels like making without any authority from the Legislature. This would make the Governor a DICTATOR, KING, a fact well hidden from the public by Pete Wilson.

2. Would allow the Governor to reduce salaries of many low paid state employees without any labor negotiations.

3. Reduction of AFDC benefits by 25%

FAMILY SIZE	1991-1992	25% CUT IN AFDC
1	326	245
2	535	401
3	663	497
4	788	591
5	899	674

4. Of all of the various Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) in State law it would only abolish the COLA for AFDC children and families of California.

NOTE: Pete Wilson started the 1990s with a \$35,000 salary increase. This increase is over 5000% of what family of three receives each month in California.

5. Denial of AFDC benefits to teenage mothers with children because they are not living with their parents or legal guardians.

6. Denial of cash aid to a child conceived while receiving AFDC benefits.

7. Denial of Aid to Pregnant Women with no other children.

8. Reducing and Increasing AFDC Benefits based on AFDC teen parent and high school children's attendance in high school.

9. Paying a lesser amount to families who move to California and become in need of assistance.

10 Would reduce benefits to the aged, blind and disabled of California.