

CCWRO Weekly New Welfare

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January 17, 2009,
Issue #09-01

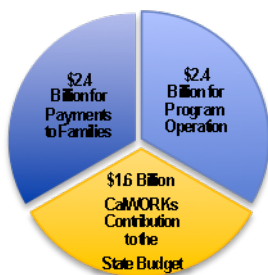
In Brief

● Effective October 1, 2008, the states can pass through to TANF, or CalWORKs families for California, the first \$100 of the current child support per month for one child or the first \$200 per month for two or more children. The aided parent would get the first \$50 per month for spousal support, without decreasing the amount of cash assistance. No more than one support pass through is paid per month per family.

● County IHSS quality assurance workers sit in front of IHSS recipients' houses and take pictures in Sacramento County according to local legal aid folks. One client being watched said that the person knocked on her door and said he is from IHSS. He followed her to the store and took DVD pictures. These underworked County IHSS bureaucrats sit in the car in front of people's houses and neighbors wonder "what is this?"

Graph # 1

Source: Governor's 2009-2010 State Budget Documents



2009-2010 State Budget

The 2009-2010 state budget is out and the one theme that springs out is that the impoverished get royally screwed and most everybody else gets some help.

Welfare recipients have always been "easy targets" for Governors and politicians. This one is no different.

The budget has increases for most everything except for payments to the poor as revealed below.

	2008-2009	2009-2010	Percentage
	Appropriation	Gov. Budget	Difference
CalWORKs Assistance Payments	\$3,004,035.00	\$2,488,979.00	-17.00%
CalWORKs Services Expenditures	\$1,004,395.00	\$1,075,865.00	7.00%
CalWORKs Administration	\$467,137.00	\$489,499.00	5.00%
Child Care Stage One	\$617,428.00	\$673,851.00	9.00%
Adoption Assistance Payments	\$793,108.00	\$829,833.00	5.00%
County Administration & Automation	\$1,382,970.00	\$1,505,484.00	9.00%
Social Services	\$2,241,917.00	\$2,306,204.00	3.00%

(Source: Governor's 2009-2010 State Budget)

County Single Allocation to operate the CalWORKs program is proposed to be \$2.03 billion for 2009-2010. This amount includes a \$106.2 million increase over the current year due to rising case caseloads.

No COLA for 2009-2010 has been budgeted, which should have been 2.94% increase, would have only cost \$ 81 million for 2009-2010. The COLA money is most likely being used to fund the county single allocation increase.

While everybody gets more money because the caseloads are going up, the Governor has decided to cut benefits for impoverished families with children. Maybe the economy is great and the cost of living is going down for the poor in the convoluted minds of this administration living in a bubble? This budget proposes reduction of grants by 10% to save \$301.3 million in 2009-2010. The budget also proposes to terminate benefits to impoverished families who are not meeting the federal work participation rates in order to save \$534.7 million in 2009-2010. Many of these kids may end up in foster care, breaking up families – an apparent policy of this administration.

The budget also launches an attack on the aged, blind and disabled immigrants who are lawfully in the United and destitute by eliminating the cash aid and food assistance and sentencing them to homelessness and foodlessness.

In summary, as revealed by the **graph #1** on the left, **only 38% of the**