

# CCWRO Welfare News

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## 2009-2010 California New Welfare Bills

**The 2009-2010 California state legislation is out. There are about thirteen CalWORKs and Food Stamp related bills. There are good bills, some wasteful bills and some spot bills. "Spot bills" are bills that are introduced that will later be amended to do something other than what the original bill does. This is a common tactic in Sacramento.**

● SB 384 - Benoid (R) -This Bill would require random drug testing of welfare parents. Parents who test positive would lose their benefits if they fail to complete a drug treatment program.

CCWRO POSITION: Oppose: This Bill does not take into consideration "false positives". Counties have reduced funding for low-cost drug treatment programs in order to "save money". Most importantly, this Bill punishes children for their parents actions.

● SB 718 - Leno (D) This Bill would limit fingerprinting only to those food stamp recipients who receive General Assistance.

CCWRO POSITION: Support

● AB 325 - Beall (D) This Bill would create a Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach program.

CCWRO POSITION: Support

● AB 510 -Evans ( D) This Bill would stop to the 60 month time clock for WtW participants who have received good cause from participation due to lack of supportive services.

CCWRO POSITION: Support

● AB 631 Tran (R) This Bill would require the county district attorneys office to search the house of every applicant for CalWORKs before aid is authorized.

CCWRO POSITION: Oppose - This could cost millions of dollars in bureaucratic costs for doing meaningless home searches for the crime of being poor.

● AB 719 - Lowenthal (D) This Bill would provide transitional food stamps to foster care youth with federal waivers

CCWRO POSITION: Support

● AB 816 - Hagman ( R) Current law transfers funding from the Employment Training Panel (ETP) to the counties for the WtW program. This Bill would stop the raid of the ETP funds. Just as we oppose others raiding TANF funds, we should not support raiding other peoples money.

CCWRO POSITION: Support

● AB 1057 - Beall (D) This Bill would create a semi-annual reporting system for CalWORKs and Food Stamps.

● AB 1058 - Beall (D) This Bill rescinds current asset/property limitations. For CalWORKs applicants the maximum asset limit would be \$7,000. This includes the primary residence. For CalWORKs recipients the property limitations would be removed, except as provided by federal law.

CCWRO POSITION: Support if amended.

● AB 325 - Brownley ( D) This bill would increase money for community college education targeted to CalWORKs recipients.

CCWRO POSITION: Support

● AB 1193 Strickland (R) This bill would require the county district attorneys office to search the house of every applicant for CalWORKs before aid is authorized.

CCWRO POSITION: Oppose - This could cost millions of dollars in bureaucratic costs for doing these meaningless home searches for the crime of being poor.

● AB 1479 Duvall (R) This is a spot bill for a "welfare reform" bill.

CCWRO POSITION: None

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