

CCWRO Welfare News

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U.S. House of Representatives Agriculture Committee Passes Bad Food Stamp Bill

On May 5, 2013 the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1947 that made significant cuts in the SNAP program.

- Limiting categorical eligibility to households receiving cash assistance through other low-income means tested assistance programs;
- Medical marijuana will not be considered as a medical expense;
- Receipt of LIHEAP benefits must be over \$20 to be used as a standard utility deduction;
- Limit the employment and training program to students who are enrolled in specific career or technical education courses or basic education, remedial, and literacy courses;
- Prohibits Government funded recruitment activities such as outreach in the USA or in foreign counties.
- Eliminate performance bonuses provided to state agencies for effectively administering the SNAP program; and
- Reduces funding of Food Stamp Employment and Training program from \$90 million to \$79 million.

This is similar to the bill passed by this same committee last year.

The bill would most likely pass the House and then await for Senate action.

The Jerry Brown 2013-2014 May Revise Proposal Fails to Address Child Poverty Ravishing California

On May 14, 2013, Jerry Brown released his May Revised State Budget. The revised budget takes \$2,029,000 from the mouths of CalWORKs babies and children living on a fixed income FROZEN at just \$6 above the 1985 level so he can proudly announce that the budget has a surplus. This represents 30% of the CalWORKs money being involuntary taken from CalWORKs impoverished families and used as an involuntary contribution to the Jerry Brown 2013-2014 State Budget. See TABLE #1.

It is estimated COLA under the California Necessities Index (CNI) for 2013-2014 would have been a little more than 2% or 3%. On the other hand counties single allocation received a whopping 7% increase - \$191 million. Because of these actions, Jerry Brown has achieved another milestone— California leads the Nation in supplemental poverty ratings by the U.S. census bureau – and his budget says “who cares”.

Meanwhile the counties continue to fleece welfare recipients participating in a welfare-to-work (WtW) activity out of transportation supportive services. About 50% of the WtW participants are not receiving transportation. Counties have OPPOSED the suggestion that WtW participants be allowed to submit on-line transportation travel claims. While welfare administrators and DSS officials can readily reach and get a travel claim, counties intentionally do not make the travel claims for transportation accessible to CalWORKs WtW participants. This has been on-going since 1999 and the Legislature does not care. CCWRO has asked the Legislature for “supplemental report” language on this issue and this request has been rejected every time.

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The following TABLE provides details of the CalWORKs state budget for 2013-2014. The proposed budget transfers \$924,216 million dollars to the CalGrants program for persons who do not meet the CalWORKs eligibility requirements. Another notable line item is the \$220,173 million taken from

CalWORKs children and given to the child welfare service and foster care emergency assistance program. We do admit that the nonstop poverty caused by California's continuous fleecing of the CalWORKs program has resulted in increased child neglect abuse.

TABLE #1

Budget Item (in thousands)	TOTAL	Federal	State	County
CalWORKs Program	6,347,150	5,075,886	1,118,961	82,303
TANF - AF/TP Cash Payments	3,109,250	2,466,121	577,351	65,778
CalWORKs Services Expenditures (16.30)	1,177,326	1,025,440	151,886	0
CalWORKs Administration (16.30)	561,543	269,257	292,286	0
CalWORKs Child Care (16.30) 405,267	372,530	32,737	0	0
Tribal TANF	80,133 0	80,133	0	0
TANF Pass-Through for State Agencies	18,322 18,322	0	0	0
TANF Transfer to Student Aid Commission	924,216	924,216	0	0
CalWORKs SB 1041	0	0	0	0
Kin-GAP Program (16.30)	71,093	0	54,568	16,525
Additional TANF/MOE Expenditures in CDSS	317,653	297,571	19,017	1065
Automation Projects - TANF/MOE	56,213	56,213	0	0
CWS-Emergency Assistance 173,500	173,500	0	0	0
Minor Parent Services and Investigations	7,097	3,549	2,483	1,065
CWS - TANF	17,636	17,636	0	0
SSP MOE Eligible	812	0	812	0
CFAP MOE Eligible	9080	0	9,080	0
EA - Foster Care TANF	46,673	46,673	0	0
Work Incentive Nutritional Supplement	6,642	0	6,642	0
Non-TANF/MOE Eligible Expenditures	-621,959	-162,530	-446,731	-12,698
Stage One Child Care Transfer to Title XX	-162,530	-162,530	0	0
Trustline	-135	0	-135	0
CalWORKs Non-MOE	-459,294	0	+446,596	-12,698
MOE Eligible Expenditures	524,255	0	524,255	0
Community College - Expansion of Services	26,695 0	26,695	0	0
CDE Child Care Programs	484,363	0	484,363	0
State Disregard Payment to Families	13,197	0	13,197	0
State Support Costs	30,156	29,512	644	0
TOTAL TANF BLOCK GRANT EXPEND.	6,597,255	5,240,439	1,286,146	70,670
State and County Expenditures	1,356,816	0	1,286,146	70,670
State and County Maintenance of Effort	2,908,684			
Work Participation Rate MOE Adjustment	0			
State/County MOE Reduction - Tribal TANF	-67,061			
Adjusted State and County MOE	2,841,623			
Expenditures Below the MOE	1,484,807			
Excess MOE Needed to Fund Programs	323,780			
GF MOE Adjustment	0	-1,808,587	-1,808,587	0
CalWORKs MOE Subaccount Funds (AB X1 16)	0	0	-1,120,551	0
Funding After Adjustments	6,597,255	3,431,852	1,974,182	0
Net General Fund Applied to MOE		1,974,182		
General Fund Appropriation for CalWORKs		1,449,927	0	
TANF Block Grant Available	0	3,882,710		
TANF Block Grant to the State		3,733,818		
TANF Block Grant Transfer/Carry Forward		148,892		
Single Allocation Reappropriation (AB 1477)		0		
TANF Block Grant Before Transfer		450,858		
Total TANF Transfers		450,858		
Tribal TANF - Transfer		86,085		
Transfer to Title XX		364,773		
Total TANF Reserve		0		
Net TANF Block Grant		0		

CHART #1

CalWORKs Involuntarily Contributions of to the State General Fund

*State Fiscal Year**CalWORKs Recipient Contribution to the State General Fund*

FY 1998-99	\$708,502,000
FY 1999-00	\$745,249,000
FY 2000-01	\$1,021,913,000
FY 2001-02	\$1,126,647,000
FY 2002-03	\$1,088,940,000
FY 2003-04	\$1,163,238,000
FY 2004-05	\$1,087,321,000
FY 2005-06	\$1,299,448,000
FY 2006-07	\$1,184,134,000
FY 2007-08	\$1,745,291,000
FY 2008-09	\$1,268,997,000
FY 2009-10	\$1,262,046,000
FY 2010-11	\$1,234,159,808
FY 2011-12	\$1,222,447,450
FY 2012-13	\$1,153,301,000
FY 2013-14 proposed	
May Revised	\$2,037,913,000

**CalWORKs Recipients Contributions to the State
General Fund from FY 98-99 through 12-13 -**

\$17.3 Billion