



CalWORKs Family Impact of the Governor's Proposed Budget for 2016-2017

Federal
TANF Block
Grant
\$3.7 Billion

Total
Funds
Available for
CalWORKs
\$6.7 billion

State
Match to
Get the
TANF Grant
\$3 Billion

**CalWORKs funds the Governor's ADDITIONAL
\$2 billion drop in the State Rainy Day bucket**

**2016-2017
CalWORKs Money
Budgeted for
CalWORKs
Families
\$4.7 Billion**

**CalWORKs Money
Not Used for the
CalWORKs
Program for 2016-2017
\$2 Billion**

PROOF - See
page 2 - A true
copy from the
Governor's 2016-
2017 Budget Doc-
uments Published
by Department of
Social Services.

**The Governor proposes a 3% REDUCTION of the "average"
CalWORKs grant levels for fiscal year 2016-2017**

Average grant level for a family of three

Fiscal Year	Average CalWORKs Grant	Percentage	
		Federal Poverty Level	Supplemental Poverty level
15-16	\$514	31%	21%
16-17	\$497	30%	20%

Governor's Proposed 2016-2017

CalWORKs Budget

On January 7, 2016, Governor Jerry Brown unveiled his 2016-2017 state budget which continues the current economic crisis for children of CalWORKs families. The budget proposes to take in excess of \$2 billion from the CalWORKs program and give it to the State General Fund. For two decades, California Governors and the Legislature have been fleecing the CalWORKs program by taking dollars from the CalWORKs program and giving it to the State General Fund, labeling this as "CalWORKs Contribution to the General Fund". Over time, this practice has transferred over \$23 billion CalWORKs dollars to the General Fund and has contributed to California's disgraceful first place ranking for the most child poverty in the United States, as measured by the Supplemental Poverty Rate by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The 2016-2017 budget proposes a total increase of \$6.5 billion or 5.6% in spending while slashing CalWORKs eligible families with children. The Governor punishes California's poor children by reducing their COLA – reducing their average benefits by 3%. The California Necessities Index (CNI) Cost-of-Living Increase for 2016-2017 is 2.97%. For California's poor children, that means reducing their fixed income by 3%.

How do other public benefit children fare under the Governor's proposed budget? Chart #1, below, reveals all programs for children who do not live with their natural families. These programs received an increase while children who live with their natural families endure reduced benefits and increased poverty.

Child Benefit Programs CHART # 1	2015-2016 Final Budget	2016-2017 Proposed Budget	Difference
CalWORKs babies and children	\$216	209	-3%
AFDC-Foster Care	2,241	2,311	+3%
Adoption Assistance Payments	974	1,016	+4%
Kin-GAP	753	762	+1%

**The total State budget is up 5.6% billion,
while CalWORKs is down 30%**

The Governor proposes an overall increase of \$6.5 billion or 5.6% in spending while slashing CalWORKs-eligible families with children. See Chart #2, below.

Program CHART # 2	2015-2016	2016-2017	Dollar Change from '15-'16	Percent Change from '15-'16
Total	\$116,064	\$122,609	\$6,545	5.6%
Government Operations	\$761	\$2,245	\$1,484	195%
Welfare to Local Government	\$445	\$483	\$38	8.5%
TOTAL Funding for CalWORKs Eligible Families and Children	\$5,200	\$4,700	\$500	-30%
Rainy Day Fund	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$2,000	25%

70% of the CalWORKs Cases Do Not Receive Benefits for all Family Members

Over 500,000 children endure sanctions/penalties annually resulting in very deep poverty. Many end up homeless. In 2016, there is no proposed legislation to address child homelessness in California.

The law states that a family of three (3) on CalWORKs receives \$670 or \$704, depending on the county of residence. But in reality, less than 30% of the cases receive a grant for their true family size. 70% of the CalWORKs cases one or more members of the family are not aided for a variety of reasons, such as the CalWORKs penalties and sanctions which have infested the California Welfare & Institutions Code and State regulations Laws. See Graph #1.

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GRAPH # 1

