

Oakland, CA
(Alameda Co.)
Tribune
(Cir. D. 149,828)
(Cir. Sat. 139,245)
(Cir. S. 153,959)

JUL 18 1985

Coalition outlines compromise over work-for-welfare

The Associated Press.

SACRAMENTO - A bipartisan coalition described today a new work-for-welfare compromise aimed at ending 15 years of efforts to "break the welfare cycle."

The compromise, which could force many welfare mothers to work for their checks, has the support of bipartisan legislative leaders and Gov. George Deukmejian.

But after a news conference in which proponents said the compromise would guide recipients into real jobs in the real economy, a lobbyist for welfare groups said he opposes it.

The bill would affect 300,000 recipients, mostly mothers, of Aid to Families with Dependent Children whose children are over 6 years of age.

During a training phase, they would get job training and help in finding jobs. If this fails, they would have to work on public service jobs — which wouldn't displace other workers — to pay for their grants.

The recipients would get \$5.07 an hour, the average starting salary in California.

Kevin Aslanian of the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations said his group is "basically against workfare because workfare does not give a person a paycheck. It gives them a welfare check. What a person wants is a paycheck and not a welfare check."