



Governor's Proposed Budget Announced

Many Potential Cuts of Concern to People Living with Disabilities

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed 2007-2008 budget is hot off the press. The early word is it contains some good and some not-so-good--including some items of major concern to people living with disabilities.

The Governor has proposed freezing the State's share of cost for State worker wages/benefits at levels set on 1/10/07, including those for IHSS workers. This would leave the excess cost to be borne by the Federal government and CA counties.

The budget does fully fund cost-of-living increases scheduled for 1/08 for SSI/SSP grants for the lowest income people.

However, proposed cuts, presented as part of the effort to balance the budget, are a concern in other areas like public transit, CalWORKS (impacting children) and welfare.



**Your Elected
Officials**

Keep watch as more details become available. The State Legislature has until 7/1 to act on this budget. Also stay tuned as California's elected Senators and Assembly Members begin to propose legislation down in Sacramento.

DID YOU KNOW.....

In-Home Support Services (IHSS) home care providers are presently negotiating for a new contract with Humboldt County. They are currently paid minimum wage (\$7.50 an hour as of 1/1/07) and receive **no benefits**. They've received no raises since the last State minimum raise increase in 2002. Many people are not aware that the Federal government pays half of the cost of IHSS provider wages/benefits and the State of CA pays 32.5%. That leaves just **17.5%** as Humboldt County's share of the cost.

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STATE LEGISLATURE: Senator Patricia Wiggins--State Capitol, Room 4081, Sacramento, CA 95814, Tel: (916) 651-4002, Fax: (916) 323-6958; District Office, 710 E Street, #150, Eureka, CA 95501, Tel: (707) 445-6508, Fax: (707) 445-6511; web site: <http://dist02.casen.govoffice.com/>; email access on web site.

Senator Sam Aanestad--Local: 200 Providence Mine Rd., Ste. 108, Nevada City, CA 95959, Tel.: (530) 470-1846; State Capitol, Rm. 2054, Sacramento, CA 95814, Tel.: (916) 651-4004, web site: www.republican.sen.ca.gov; e-mail: access on web site

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MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'S BIRTHDAY
(observed) JANUARY 15, 2007

*"Our lives begin to end the day we
become silent about things that matter."
—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*

NOTE: Blue Lake City Council Meetings--
2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:00 pm, Skinner
Store Community Center, 111 Greenwood,
Blue Lake. For info, call (707)668-5655.

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan. 23--Humboldt County Board of Supervisors meeting, 9 a.m., County Courthouse, 825 Fifth St., Rm. 111, Eureka.

Jan. 26 - State Leg., last day to submit [bill requests](#) to the Office of Legislative Counsel.

Jan. 30--Humboldt County Board of Supervisors meeting, 9 a.m.

Feb. 6--Humboldt County Board of Supervisors meeting, 9 a.m.

Feb. 23 - State Leg., last day for bills to be introduced (J.R. 61(a)(1), J.R. 54(a)).

May 23 - Disability Capitol Action Day in Sacramento. Contact TCIL for more info: (707) 445-8404.

Care-A-Van Dial-A-Ride

The Humboldt Community Access & Resource Center recently expanded Dial-a-Ride/Dial-a-Lift services. They are available to residents living in the following areas: Humboldt Hill, Ridgewood Heights, King Salmon, Fields Landing, Samoa/Manila, and Old Arcata Road. Eligibility guidelines, maps and applications are available at Humboldt Transit Authority (443-0826). You can obtain tickets at Humboldt Transit Authority, Eureka City Hall, and Arcata Transit.

Be sure to take advantage of the increased opportunities for community access. For more information call Richard Farfan, HCAR Transportation Coordinator, (707) 443-7077.