



Assembly Member **SANDRÉ SWANSON**

News Release

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## Assemblymember Swanson Denounces Proposed Elimination Of State HIV/AIDS Programs

**(Sacramento)** – Hundreds of activists from throughout the state converged on the Capitol yesterday to protest Governor Schwarzenegger’s proposed elimination of state HIV/AIDS programs. Eliminating these programs would save the State approximately \$80 million, barely denting the nearly \$24 billion shortfall.

Assemblymember Sandré R. Swanson (D-Alameda) joined actress Sheryl Lee Ralph, along with other legislative leaders to decry the proposed cuts.

“Eliminating these programs would be a death sentence for thousands of Californians statewide. These are morally objectionable proposals, and I will not vote for these cuts. People throughout the state should make it absolutely clear to their elected representatives that this proposal is unacceptable, immoral, and completely ineffective in addressing our budget crisis. This is fight is part of our larger struggle for equal access to care. Health care should not be sold like a loaf of bread, and those who need it most should not be placed on the chopping block. Period,” Assemblymember Swanson charged.

“California is at a crossroads. As legislators attempt to balance the state’s finances in this historic recession, our budget should reflect California’s priorities and provide for this very important safety net for all of its citizens,” he concluded.

Assemblymember Swanson urged supporters to also contact the Governor’s office at (916) 445-2841.



Assemblymember Sandré R. Swanson (D-Alameda) addresses the crowd.  
Sheryl Lee Ralph (far left) spoke earlier at the rally.

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