



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 8, 2010

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**ASSEMBLYMEMBER SANDRÉ SWANSON
RESPONDS TO THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET PROPOSAL**

Assemblymember Sandré Swanson (D-Alameda) issued the following statement today after the Governor presented his proposed budget:

"The state has suffered tens of billions of dollars in cuts over the last three budget cycles. It concerns me that the Governor continues to propose the dismantling of the safety net needed by millions during this historically severe financial crisis. His proposed cuts to CalWORKS, Healthy Families, and In-Home Support Services will not balance the budget or solve the systemic budget problems that our state faces-- it simply shifts the tax burden responsibility to local government. This is a morally bankrupt way to balance the budget. It is unfair and unwise policy to place local governments in the impossible situation of choosing between raising revenue or abandoning the people of the state—the Governor and the Legislature need to come up with a statewide solution to solve this continuing state financial crisis.

"State workers have shouldered more than their share of the budget burden and to propose further cuts goes beyond what is reasonable or fair. There is no waste to cut in the state budget. We need to do now what we should have done two years ago, which is to find real budget solutions that speak to our priorities as a state. My hope is that education, protection of the safety net, and job development would be critical to that budget," concluded Assemblymember Swanson.

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