

CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL SUPERVISORS ORGANIZATION

July 24, 2009 - Weekly Update

Budget Goes on to Assembly:

On Monday, July 20th, the "Big 5" top five legislators agreed with the Governor on a budget deal that was to be voted on by the legislature on Thursday, July 23rd. The agreed upon budget would close the \$26.3 billion deficit. The Governor made the statement, "This is a budget that has no tax increases and a budget that is cutting spending. We're protecting education and making government more efficient and cutting waste and abuse." The deficit will close the \$26.3 billion deficit by taking approximately 15 billion in cuts and "borrowing" 8 billion dollars from local governments. Other monies have been raised by collecting taxes early, and moving more than 1 billion dollars worth of pay to state workers from this fiscal year to the next. Schwarzenegger proposal was accepted by the "Big 5" to allow oil drilling off the coast of Santa Barbara, which would have generated around 100 million dollars a year.

CDCR will take a \$1.2 billion cut that will directly impact all Californians. There could be 27,000 inmates released from state prisons. The California Police Chief Association said releasing some 27,000 low-risk inmates early with no parole would hinder local police's ability to monitor potentially dangerous criminals. The budget is taking monies from cities and counties, which in turn will result in cuts to local law enforcement staff. The released inmates could be either released with reduced parole supervision, or be given home detention, electronic monitors, or transferred to county jails.

Although California Law Enforcement came out against the release of 27,000 inmates, CDCR Secretary Matt Cate said it was unfair to characterize the plan as early release. Cate said it includes parole changes and credits for inmates who complete rehabilitation programs. Secretary Cate says some inmates could also serve the last year of their sentences outside prison.

The budget circus continued in the halls of the Capitol this week, until early Friday, July 24th when the Senate passed the budget that closed the state's \$26.3-billion budget deficit. The budget is now with the Assembly for a vote. Once voted on by the Assembly it will go to the Governor where the veto process could come into play.

A scuffle over how to cut from the corrections budget seems to be resolved for now. The Governor and Democratic legislative leaders said things are back on track after a "misunderstanding" over whether a Democrat-backed plan to reduce the prison population would result in the early release of prisoners. This budget package includes assumed savings from cuts to the corrections system, but legislators will put off voting on how those cuts will be made until August, according to statements in an early afternoon press briefing.

It would appear that California is only delaying the inevitable and not fixing anything. This budget closes the deficit by taking monies away from state employees, CDCR which houses thousands of criminals (taking crime off our streets), and by borrowing from local cities and counties promising to pay them back in 2013. If the state cannot pay its bills now, how do they plan on paying back your city and your county in 2013 during this recession? The Governor says this budget has "no tax increases" but you will be taxed via fees from your city and your county because they too are fighting to keep afloat in this financial meltdown. If California has to borrow to close the deficit how will they ever come full circle to stop furloughs and stop the onslaught of cutbacks to state employees?

The CCSO State Board and staff will continue to work with other labor groups, legislators, the Governor's Office, CDCR, and DPA to stop the furloughs, and stop the continual cuts to CDCR. This budget deal will

reduce \$1.2 billion through three unpaid furlough days each month for state workers and cut \$1.2 billion from CDCR, which is yet to be determined until August on where those reductions will be made. Legislators, law enforcement, and CCSO do not want cuts coming from releasing 27,000 inmates because it would be unsafe to the communities in which we live, and a possible reduction, in August, of 27,000 inmates gives the State a way to lay-off CDCR staff. CCSO cannot tolerate this plan and says NO.

The Governor has proposed a straight 5% pay cut for state employees, or if legislators do not approve the pay cut then the Governor has threatened to impose a fourth furlough day. The Governor has announced to state employee unions that another 2,000 state jobs will receive lay-off notices on top of the already 5,000 notices given a few months ago. CDCR staff saw 3660 lay-off notices a few months back and may have additional lay-off notices sent out by September. DPA Spokesperson Lynelle Jolley said layoffs would not take effect until September.

The budget deems that \$1.2 billion dollars in cuts must be found somewhere in CDCR, but CCSO strongly opposes that cuts be found by taking any additional cuts from CDCR staff. CCSO opposes such action, and urges Secretary Cate to fight on behalf of CDCR and say "No" to these cuts.

Do not be complacent. Please become an active participant in California politics because you are being directly affected. **Call, email, write or visit your local assemblyperson today, and tell them to cut out the massive wasteful spending without impacting your pay, your city, or your county.**

T a k e C a r e a n d B e S a f e

Reported By: Lt. Chris Gold, State Board Member and Law Enforcement Liaison

We are continuing to fight the battle against "Furloughs" unjustly imposed on all **selected** state employees. On Friday **July 10, 2009**, I spent most of the morning walking each floor of the state capitol handing out flyers, and speaking with legislators, like **Senator, Dave Cox**, and many others about our opposition to the furlough program. This continues to be a significant financial fiasco that is unconscionable, and has been unjustly imposed on the state work force, which through these difficult times has continued to provide services and support to our state.

There remains a strong indication that legislators need to step out of their comfort zones, and meet with the Governor on a California State Budget, and to stop allowing the state employees, to be used as pawns in this chaotic bureaucracy. These same state employees are the voting constituents within the districts of legislators, whom at some point will seek support when reelection time comes around again. I will personally use each of my furlough days walking the halls of the state capitol fighting this issue until resolved.

I have also talked with representatives from SEIU, and ACSS, to work collectively towards combating these issues at hand. On **Saturday July 11, 2009**, I attended an ACSS, conference downtown Sacramento, to solicit their support and input on these specific issues. **Thursday July 23**, I attended a POST, conference at the Marriott Hotel in Sacramento, where staff from the Governors Office spoke on issues impacting all of us.

I have said this many times before, and I will say this again, CCSO, and your elected State Board, will continue to fight for the rights of our members.

CMF Meeting

On a different issue, Friday afternoon, 7/10/09, I was honored to attend a CCSO board meeting in Vacaville with the California Medical Facility (CMF) Supervisory Staff. I had a great time sitting and conversing with our fellow members and discussing local, and statewide issues. I was thrilled to witness the motivation and teamwork of the staff that attended. Thank you for the invitation CMF, and keep up the great work!