

## CDCAN DISABILITY RIGHTS REPORT CALIFORNIA DISABILITY COMMUNITY ACTION NETWORK



**#100-2010 – JUNE 2, 2010 - WEDNESDAY**

*Advocacy Without Borders: One Community – Accountability With Action - California Disability Community Action Network Disability Rights News goes out to over 55,000 people with disabilities, mental health needs, seniors, traumatic brain & other injuries, veterans with disabilities and mental health needs, their families, workers, community organizations, including those in Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino, African American communities, policy makers and others across California.*

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### **California Budget Crisis:**

## **Budget Conference Committee Agenda Released - Assembly Committee Members Named - First Hearing Scheduled for June 3 Thursday 1 PM**

***Sen. Denise Ducheny Will Chair 10 Member Budget Conference Committee  
This Year As Pressure Mounts To Resolve \$20 Billion Budget Hole***

SACRAMENTO, CALIF (CDCAN) [Updated 06/02/2010 05:20 PM (Pacific Time)] - A special joint committee composed of members of both the Assembly and State Senate, called a “conference committee” to be chaired this year by Sen. Denise Ducheny (Democrat – San Diego), will hold its first hearing June 3, Thursday afternoon at 1:00 PM at the State Capitol in Room 4203 to begin the process of resolving any different actions taken by the Assembly and Senate on a wide range of budget issues. An agenda for the conference committee – hundreds of pages long, was released today. The portions specifically focused on human services budget issues (9 page pdf file) and health budget items (46 page pdf file) are attached to this CDCAN Report and also can be viewed and downloaded from the CDCAN website at [www.cdcan.us](http://www.cdcan.us)

Only those budget issues where the Assembly and State Senate took DIFFERENT actions are issues on the conference committee agenda. Budget issues where both houses took the same actions are, for now, part of Governor’s proposed 2010-2011 State Budget, as revised – but still requires approval of both houses of the Legislature and the Governor. Given the major differences that Legislative Democrats and Republicans and the Governor have on resolving the budget deficit, passage of a budget will not happen anytime soon, most Capitol observers agree.

### **All 10 Conference Committee Members Named**

The budget conference committee will be larger than in other years, with a total of 10 members – 5 from the Assembly and 5 from the State Senate.

The State Senate announced on Tuesday its members on the budget conference committee:

**Senate Democratic Members (3):** *Denise Ducheny (chair of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee), Mark Leno (chair of the Senate Budget Subcommittee #3 on*

*Health and Human Services) and Alan Lowenthal, (chair of the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee)*

Senate Republican Members (2): *Bob Dutton (vice chair of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee and incoming Senate Republican Leader) and Sen. Bob Huff (vice chair of the Senate Education Committee).*

The Assembly announced its 5 conference committee members today (Wednesday):

Assembly Democratic Members (3): *Bob Blumenfield (chair of the Assembly Budget Committee), Felipe Fuentes (chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee), and Nancy Skinner (chair of the Assembly Rules Committee)*

Assembly Republican Members (2): *Connie Conway (vice chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee) and Jim Nielsen (vice chair of the Assembly Budget Committee)*

### **Hearings Will Continue Possibly Through June 11th**

After Thursday, budget conference committee hearings are scheduled through Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, (including the weekend) at the call of the committee chair.

All budget conference committee hearings are open to the public and televised – though public testimony is not taken at these hearings.

At this point in the budget process, the Governor's proposed 2010-2011 State Budget that includes changes that both the Senate and Assembly Democrats passed in recent weeks, is contained in AB 190. After the budget conference committee phase ends, that bill number will likely change as the process moves forward (CDCAN will report any changes).

### **JUNE 3, 2010 – THURSDAY**

#### **BUDGET CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

1:00 PM – State Capitol – Room 4203

First conference committee hearing on the budget – AB 190

AGENDA AVAILABLE: YES – copies of 9 page human services section and the 46 page health section are attached to this CDCAN Report and also on the CDCAN website at [www.cdcan.us](http://www.cdcan.us)

PUBLIC TESTIMONY AT THESE HEARINGS: No, not normally – but all hearings are open to the public and people can comment on budget items and issues by writing the conference committee members, the legislative leadership and also their own legislators.

PRIORITY: **VERY HIGH**

#### **CDCAN COMMENT:**

- Budget conference committee takes up those budget issues where the Assembly and State Senate took different actions on a specific budget item – many which impact people with disabilities, mental health needs, the blind, seniors, low income families and workers who provide supports and services.
- The conference committee will go through a long agenda organized by department budget item number and then go through each budget item under that department where each house took a different action and attempt to resolve the differences.

- While all hearings are public and televised – no public testimony is taken at these hearings, though people can write to the conference committee members expressing their concerns.
- After Thursday's hearing, budget conference committee hearings are scheduled – though at the call of the chair – every day (including the weekend) through June 11<sup>th</sup>, Friday. All conference hearing dates and times are subject to change.
- Even when the budget conference committee finishes its work – sometime on or before June 11<sup>th</sup>, it is unlikely that any agreement to pass a State budget will have been reached, with the Governor, Legislative Democrats and Republicans sharply differing on how to resolve the immediate and on-going state budget crisis.

## ***CDCAN'S ACCOUNTABILITY WITH ACTION TRAINING***

**JUNE 14, 2010 – MONDAY 1:00 to 3:15 PM**

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***VERY URGENT!!!!***

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We need your help. CDCAN Townhall Telemeetings, reports and alerts and other activities cannot continue without your help.

To continue the CDCAN website, the CDCAN News Reports. sent out and read by over 50,000 people and organizations, policy makers and media across California and to continue the CDCAN Townhall Telemeetings which since December 2003 have connected thousands of people with disabilities, seniors, mental health needs, people with MS and other disorders, people with traumatic brain and other injuries to public policy makers, legislators, and issues.

Please send your contribution/donation (make payable to "CDCAN" or

"California Disability Community Action Network):

### **CDCAN**

**1225 8th Street Suite 480 - Sacramento, CA 95814**

paypal on the CDCAN site is not yet working – will be soon.

MANY, MANY THANKS TO the Pacific Homecare Services, Easter Seals, California Association of Adult Day Health Centers, Valley Mountain Regional Center, Toward Maximum Independence, Inc (TMI), Friends of Children with Special Needs, UCP of Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, Southside Arts Center, San Francisco Bay Area Autism Society of America, Hope Services in San Jose, FEAT of Sacramento (Families for Early Autism Treatment), RESCoalition, Sacramento Gray Panthers, Easter Seals of Southern California, Tri-Counties Regional Center, Westside Regional Center, Regional Center of the East Bay, UCP of Orange County, Alta California Regional Center, Life Steps, Parents Helping Parents, Work Training, Foothill Autism Alliance, Arc Contra Costa, Pause4Kids, Manteca CAPS, Training Toward Self Reliance, UCP, California NAELA, Californians for Disability Rights, Inc (CDR) including CDR chapters, CHANCE Inc, , Strategies To Empower People (STEP), Harbor Regional Center, Asian American parents groups, Resources for Independent Living and many other Independent Living

Centers, several regional centers, People First chapters, IHSS workers, other self advocacy and family support groups, developmental center families, adoption assistance program families and children, and others across California.