

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY JOURNAL

RECESS JOURNAL NO. 12

Assembly Chamber, Sacramento
Friday, January 9, 2004

The following Assembly Journal was printed for introduction of the Governor's Budget, in compliance with Article IV, Sec. 12(a) of the Constitution, and pursuant to unanimous consent granted on Thursday, January 8, 2004, for introduction of Assembly Bills.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following communication was presented by the Speaker and ordered printed in the Journal:

Governor's Office, Sacramento
January 8, 2004

The Honorable John Burton, President pro Tempore
The Honorable Jim Brulte, Senate Republican Leader
The Honorable Herb Wesson, Assembly Speaker
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Assembly Republican Leader
The Honorable Wesley Chesbro,
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
The Honorable Dick Ackerman,
Vice-Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
The Honorable Jenny Oropeza, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
The Honorable Rick Keene, Vice-Chair, Assembly Budget Committee

Dear Members: As you know, the Governor's Budget will be released tomorrow. As is tradition, when the Governor begins presenting his budget we will provide each office with a copy of the Budget Summary along with a CD-Rom of the Budget.

This is the first year the Governor's Office will distribute the Budget on CD-Rom. We are very pleased and excited to set this precedent as we anticipate it will prove to be an effective cost saving measure; an estimated 12 million cubic pounds of paper will be saved with this change.

We hope that you will welcome this change. If there are any questions please feel free to contact the Legislative Affairs office at 445-4341.

Sincerely,

RICHARD COSTIGAN III
Legislative Secretary

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following Budget message from the Governor was received and ordered printed in the Journal:

Governor's Office, Sacramento
January 9, 2004

To the Senate and Assembly of the Legislature of California:

In compliance with Article IV, Section 12 of the California Constitution, I hereby submit to you the 2004–05 Governor's Budget.

Never before has California been faced with a fiscal challenge of such an incredible magnitude. As the first phase of my outside audit of state government revealed, we must confront an inherited debt that is now estimated to be a staggering \$22 billion.

But at the same time, never has there been such an opportunity to fundamentally change the way business is done in Sacramento—and, an opportunity to implement reforms that will make California solvent and strong once again.

The budget I have put before you sets California on a clear path of recovery.

First, it calls for difficult but necessary steps to begin to bring the amount of money we spend in line with the amount of money the state takes in.

Second, it reflects fundamental reform proposals throughout state government—in K–12 education, in higher education, in health and human service programs, and more. These reform proposals make sense not only from a budgetary perspective, but from a policy perspective as well.

And third, it puts the state on a path to recovery without raising taxes, which would only serve to blunt the economic recovery we are now beginning to realize.

No one should underestimate the size of the task that is before us. The debt that this administration inherited did not occur in a single year. And given the size of the state's fiscal crisis, nearly every area of state government will be asked to shoulder some of the sacrifice that will be required.

But that is what the people who sent us here expect us to do—face our problems squarely and make the right decisions for the people.

We have already demonstrated to the people of California that we can put aside politics as usual. Late last year, we cast aside partisan differences and worked together to approve the California Recovery Plan for the March ballot—a bond of up to \$15 billion to refinance a portion of the inherited debt, coupled with new requirements for a balanced budget, a rainy-day budget reserve, and authority to control overspending—before it grows out of control.

It is this spirit of bipartisan cooperation that I hope will guide our debate over the state budget in the weeks and months ahead. By working together to address the state's fiscal crisis in a responsible manner, we can once again show the people of California that we are worthy of the trust they have placed in us.

Sincerely,

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

Accompanying CD-Rom of the Budget and printed Budget Summary ordered filed with the Secretary of State.

RECEIPT

I acknowledge receipt this 9th day of January 2004 at 12:45 p.m., of the CD-Rom Budget and accompanying printed Budget Summary for the 2004–05 fiscal year, together with an explanatory message delivered to me personally by Pam Oto.

LAWRENCE A. MURMAN
Assistant Chief Clerk of the Assembly

INTRODUCTION OF ASSEMBLY BILLS

The following bill was introduced:

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 1800—Oropeza. An act making appropriations for the support of the government of the State of California and for several public purposes in accordance with the provisions of Section 12 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State of California, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

HERB J. WESSON, JR., Speaker

PAM CAVILEER, Minute Clerk

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