

## Immediate Press Release - January 10, 2007

1901 Alhambra Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95816-7000  
Tel. 916-712-0071 or 916-387-8341 or 916-736-0616  
[daslanian@earthlink.net](mailto:daslanian@earthlink.net) / [ccwro@aol.com](mailto:ccwro@aol.com)

“Today the Terminator (also known as Governor Schwarzenegger) proposes to terminate the cost of living increase for impoverished families with children living on a fixed income. Their welfare benefits today are at the same level that welfare families received in 1990-1991” Said Kevin Aslanian, Executive Director of the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, Inc.

“Since the enactment of the federal TANF program designed to provide a safety net for families with needy children over \$9.5 billion dollars have been used by state officials as “contribution to the General Fund, said Aslanian.

“During the Schwarzenegger watch over \$3.1 billion has been taken away from impoverished families with children living in deep poverty as a contribution to the General Fund”, said Aslanian.

“While this Governor used money that should be used for California’s impoverished families with needy children for the General Fund, he also immorally and callously denied them a cost-of-living increase for two (2) years in a roll that would have cost about \$270 million, a

8.45% of the amount of TANF money that the Governor took away from the CalWORKs program as a contribution to the General Fund in 2 years,” said Aslanian.

“This year not only is the Governor proposing the deny impoverished families the meager statutory COLA while giving a COLA to a host of other programs, but is also proposing to terminated benefits for children if the parents are not able to find work, said Aslanian. “Nobody is entitled to a JOB in the United States of America. How can you find a job without a car, a telephone, decent clothing, and many times a place to live” wondered Aslanian.

“The Governor needs to look at himself and his administration to exercise “personal responsibility” for the fact that less than 25% of the current CalWORKs caseload is NOT meeting the federal participation rates, said Aslanian. The Governor has been throwing over \$1 billion a year to welfare/workfare bureaucracy to meet the federal participation rates and they have delivered a 75% failure rate, said Aslanian. “Is that the Schwarzenegger”’s definition of personal responsibility – he fails and punishes the children on CalWORKs – 80% of the CalWORKs caseload,” said Aslanian.