

RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLES

A MORAL BUDGET FOR ALL CALIFORNIANS

—CLUE CALIFORNIA ▪ CLERGY & LAITY UNITED FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE

FAITH—COMMUNITIES CALL FOR A MORAL STATE BUDGET

A budget is a moral document, reflecting the values and priorities of a family, a community, a society:

REASON: A responsible family creates a budget to make sure that their resources are sufficient for their needs.

COMPASSION: In times of budget shortfalls, no one in the family is left out.

FAIRNESS: Our faith traditions advocate for a community where the needs of each person are equally valued and respected.

RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT: The statewide budget should convey the government's priority to invest in the well-being of all people in our society.

STEWARDSHIP: California cannot become a state that only serves those who have already been blessed with good incomes and social stability.

All Religions proclaim our responsibility to care for those among us most in need. Religions highlighted this week:

ROMAN CATHOLIC

The basis for all that the Church believes about the moral dimensions of economic life is its vision of the transcendent worth—the sacredness—of human beings. The dignity of the human person realized in community with others, is the criterion against which all aspects of economic life must be measured. —*U.S. Bishops, Economic Justice for All, No. 28 (1986)*

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

Through human decisions and actions, God is at work in economic life. Economic life is intended to be a means through which God's purposes for humankind and creation are to be served. When this does not occur, as a church we cannot remain silent because of who and whose we are. —*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, "Economic Life: Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All," (1999)*

Contact your government representatives and ask for a moral budget that protects the most vulnerable among us.

Senator. Mark Wyland
1910 Palomar Point Way, #105
Carlsbad, CA 92008
Phone: 760-931-2455; Fax: 760-931-2477

Assemblywoman Mimi Walters, 73rd District
24031 El Toro Road, Suite 210
Laguna Hills, CA 92653
949-457-7333

State Capitol, Room 6031
Sacramento, Ca 94249-0073
916-319-2073

Assemblyman Martin Garrick, 74th District
1910 Palomar Point Way, Suite 106
Carlsbad, CA 92008
760-929-7998

State Capitol, Room 2016
Sacramento, CA 94249-0074
916-319-2074

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-445-2841; Fax: 916-445-4633



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Second of a series

People of Faith Throughout California Urge Elected Officials to Pass a Moral Budget

Currently, our elected officials are meeting in Sacramento to debate the details of the budget. While clergy and people of faith throughout California recognize the need to manage the budget crisis, they are urging elected officials not to balance the budget on the backs of the state's most vulnerable people. Instead, the faith community believes that a budget is a moral document that reflects the values and priorities of a society, and we call on our legislature to remember the following values when as they make difficult decisions: *reason, compassion, fairness, responsible investment, and stewardship.*

To learn more about a Moral Budget, please join us on the Plaza following the Masses on Saturday, August 9, and Sunday, August 10. This forum is sponsored by the Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice of San Diego County.

