

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:

UNITED METHODIST

We hold government responsible for the . . . guarantee of rights to adequate food, clothing, shelter, education, and health care. (164.a)

JEWISH

Judaism has always demanded that its moral values be applied to the practical problems of society. "The earth and its inhabitants are the Lord's." Our prophets viewed the earth, its resources, and the wealth derived from them as a sacred trust, to be shared justly by all. The purpose of society and government is to provide for such sharing and to insure the security and rights of the disadvantaged and the weak.

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

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Sacramento, Ca 94249-0073
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Third 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.