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Contact: Nancy Swindell,  
AFSCME 2620 President  
[Nancy\\_Swindell@msn.com](mailto:Nancy_Swindell@msn.com)  
209.625.6292

## Schwarzenegger's Irresponsible Budget Plan "Reckless Random and Rash"

During a speech to the California Legislature Tuesday, Gov. Schwarzenegger urged legislators to consider the state's budget crisis as an "opportunity" to make government "more efficient," yet Schwarzenegger's sledgehammer approach to budget cuts would have the opposite result.

The following statement is by AFSCME 2620 President Nancy Swindell, reacting to Schwarzenegger's speech:

"Gov. Schwarzenegger's reckless, random and rash budget cut proposals are irresponsible. We urge the Governor to consider a more balanced approach, including the elimination of outrageously expensive and inefficient private contracts. Targeted budget adjustments should be used to revitalize California, not dismantle life saving programs."

"AFSCME 2620 members are not part of the problem, they are part of the solution. Our professionals actually save taxpayer money. AFSCME 2620 members help transform disabled Californians into productive taxpayers and help convicted criminals become law-abiding citizens, saving the state money in the long-run."

"AFSCME 2620 professionals want to do our part to help the state's budget crisis, but Gov. Schwarzenegger's proposed budget cuts would virtually destroy vital services that help protect the health and safety of all Californians."

AFSCME 2620 represents nearly 5,000 highly trained, educated professionals working in the mental health, healthcare and social services fields. AFSCME 2620 members provide a range of state services including adoption placement, psychological treatment, day care and senior care home inspections, and vocational rehabilitation counseling that helps disabled Californians find successful employment.

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