



Conference Plenary and Workshop Sessions

Plenary sessions will include:

Moving Forward: The Fundamental Budget and Policy Challenges Facing California

Speakers: Assemblymember John Laird, chair, Assembly Budget Committee and Jean Ross, executive director, California Budget Project

The Great Risk Shift: The Assault on American Jobs, Families, Health Care, and Retirement And How You Can Fight Back

Speaker: Jacob S. Hacker, PhD, professor, Yale University

A Prescription for Change: What Could Health Care Reform Mean for California?

Speakers: Kim Belshé, secretary, Health and Human Services Agency; Assemblymember Hector De La Torre, 50th District; and Sandra R. Hernández, MD, chief executive officer, The San Francisco Foundation

Workshops will include:

The Federal Budget and Food Stamp Reauthorization: How Will California's Families Fare?

Speakers: Stacy Dean, director of food assistance policy, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and Edwin Park, senior fellow, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

An Historic Challenge: Meeting the Education and Training Needs of Tomorrow's California

Speaker: Linda Collins, executive director, Career Ladders Project and Barbara Baran, senior fellow, California Budget Project

Changing Hands: What Will Changes in Congress Mean for Health Care in California?

Speaker: Edwin Park, senior fellow, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

The 2007-08 Budget: The Dance Begins

Speakers: Diane Cummins, chief fiscal policy advisor, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Don Perata and Peter Schaafsma, fiscal staff director, Assembly Republican Caucus

The 2007-08 Budget: The Dance Begins II

Speakers: Craig Cornett, budget director, Office of Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez and Seren Taylor, staff director, Senate Republican Fiscal Office

Are Businesses and Jobs Leaving California?

Speaker: Jed Kolko, research fellow, Public Policy Institute of California

Hard Work and a Fair Shot: Policy Options to Help California's Working Families Make Ends Meet

Speakers: Alissa Anderson Garcia, policy analyst, California Budget Project and Scott Graves, senior policy analyst, California Budget Project

California's Public Schools: How Can We Close the Achievement Gap?

Speaker, Russlynn Ali, executive director, The Education Trust – West and Lenore Ehling, principal consultant, Assembly Budget Committee

Climate Change and AB 32: What Do They Mean for California and the State Budget?

Speaker: Kip Lipper, consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Don Perata

Bubble and Bonds: The Ups and Downs of Housing in California

Speakers: Paul Leonard, California director, Center for Responsible Lending and Mark Stivers, consultant, Senate Transportation and Housing Committee

Prison Spending and the State Budget: Why Everyone Should Care

Speaker: Barry Krisberg, president, National Council on Crime and Delinquency

The Nuts and Bolts of Health Care Reform

Speakers: David Panush, consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Don Perata; Sumi Sousa, special assistant, Office of Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez; and Anthony Wright, executive director, Health Access California