



## *Protecting Priorities in Uncertain Times*

**March 18, 2004**

### **Agenda**

8:00–8:45 **Continental Breakfast and Registration**

9:00–9:15 **Welcome and Overview**  
**Jean Ross**, Executive Director, California Budget Project

9:15–10:45 **Morning Plenary: How Should the Budget Be Balanced?**  
How can the Legislature and the Governor balance the state budget while ensuring adequate funding for public services?

**Speakers:**

**Kimberly Belshé**, Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency  
**Craig Cornett**, Budget Director, Office of Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez  
**Diane Cummins**, Chief Fiscal Policy Advisor, Senate President Pro Tem John Burton

**Moderator: Ginger Rutland**, Associate Editor, The Sacramento Bee

11:00–12:15 **Workshops**

- ❖ Bridging California's Budget Gap: The 2004-05 Budget
- ❖ California's Affordable Housing Crisis: What's the Latest?
- ❖ The Changing Face of California
- ❖ Dollars and Democracy: An Advocate's Guide to the California State Budget Process
- ❖ Making Sense of California's Workforce Development System
- ❖ Welfare Reform: What Will TANF Reauthorization and Budget Deficits Mean for California's Safety Net for Poor Families?

12:15–1:45 **Lunch Plenary: Standing Up for California's Future**  
State Treasurer Phil Angelides will outline his proposals for balancing the budget and investing in California's future.

**Speaker:**

**Phil Angelides**, Treasurer, State of California

2:00-3:15

**Workshops**

- ❖ The Impact of State Budget Decisions on Local Communities
- ❖ The State of Working California: How Have California's Working Families Fared?
- ❖ Things Your Mother Never Told You About California's Tax System
- ❖ Understanding School Finance
- ❖ What Do the Election Results Mean for the Budget and Budget Reform?
- ❖ What Do State and Federal Budget Proposals Mean for California's Health Care System?

3:15-4:15

**Afternoon Plenary: The Federal Budget: What Does It Mean for California?**

What do federal budget proposals and recent federal tax cuts mean for the future of public services? How might these policies affect programs at the state and local levels?

**Speaker:**

**Robert Greenstein**, Executive Director, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

4:15-4:30

**Closing Remarks**

**Jean Ross**, Executive Director, California Budget Project