



DISABLED NEEDY LEFT OUT

Tax Law Aids Rich and Perils Public Jobs, Labor Warns

Despite vigorous opposition by the California Labor Federation and the Coalition for Tax Justice, the state legislature this week passed and Governor Brown signed a controversial property tax relief bill which imposes a ceiling on local government revenues with no provision for state revenue sharing and places no ceiling on the market value of homes eligible for property tax relief although it does provide a 30 percent cut in property taxes for all homeowners and increases the renters' tax credit from \$37 to \$75.

John F. Henning, executive officer of the California AFL-CIO, pointed out that the bill signed by Governor Brown today also places no ceiling on the personal income of those eligible for tax relief and fails to restore needed additional relief for the totally disabled that was stripped from the bill on the Assembly floor yesterday.

Asserting that the bill is "clearly a threat both to the jobs and incomes of all public workers," Henning said:

"What the people have been demanding is property tax relief to save the homes of low and middle income families, particularly those in retirement.

"In light of the fact that this bill places a ceiling on state expenditures as well as a ceiling on local government expenditures which will jeopardize the jobs of tens of thousands of public employees while granting unnecessary relief to the wealthy, it appears to offer little to the state's voters to offset the even greater destructive impact of the Jarvis Initiative."

The California AFL-CIO and the Coalition for Tax Justice took their stand against the bill on the Senate floor yesterday afternoon and the vote was deadlocked at 23 to 7 for more than five hours. But finally the deadlock broke and the

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AFL-CIO Backs Building of Sundesert Nuclear Plant

Strong support for construction of the Sundesert nuclear power plant in Riverside County was voiced by the national AFL-CIO Executive Council last week.

"Approval of the Sundesert nuclear plant would create further employment opportunities by assuring that California will continue to have a reliable, economic source of electrical energy for industrial and domestic uses," the council said in a statement issued Feb. 24.

Asserting that it is "the belief of the AFL-CIO that all sources of energy must be developed to their utmost with appropriate safeguards for health, safety and the environment to help the nation face up to the energy problem," the council referred to the recent denial of a needed exemption for the plant by the state Energy Commission, saying:

"The threat in California to nuclear energy is a disturbing development. The nation cannot shut the door on any source of energy. To do so would be an act of irresponsibility."

Just this week, the continuing decline in the value of the U. S. dollar in world trade was blamed largely on the nation's failure to

develop a viable energy program.

The Council, which represents the nation's 13.5 million AFL-CIO union members, pointed out that "even with the most stringent

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Judge Orders Changes to Clarify Jarvis Summary

A Sacramento Superior Court judge has ordered Attorney General Evelle J. Younger to revise the summary of the Jarvis initiative by deleting the word "property" from the title to help inform voters that all taxes would be affected if the measure should be approved next June.

Judge Irving Perluss issued the order in Sacramento last week in the course of rejecting arguments by opponents of the Jarvis initiative that the measure contained more than one subject.

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TO SPUR ECONOMY

Labor Calls for Social Security Tax Rollback

The AFL-CIO has called for a rollback in the social security tax rate to 5.85 percent in 1979 and financing of future rate increases from general revenue funds.

Last year's amendments to the social security law made a number of major changes that continued the regressive nature of the system's financing, severely affecting those least able to carry the burden, the Executive Council declared at its meeting in Bal Harbour, Fla., last week.

It pointed out that President Carter's original financing pro-

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California—The Poor State

Thirty states of the Union and the District of Columbia provide higher unemployment benefits than California.

The situation is getting worse. Last year only 20 states were ahead of California.

Despite the boasts that California is the richest and fastest growing state, we are more and more resembling the poorer states in jobless payments.

The chart below details the disgraceful situation. The fact that 10 states also provide dependency benefits for the unemployed destroys the right of California to claim progressive leadership in worker benefits. Far from leading, we follow.

We hope and trust the Brown administration and the legislature will liberalize the unemployment benefit structure. It is all the more ironic that the State of California will this year give industry a scheduled reduction of \$100,000,000 in its contribution to the Unemployment Insurance Fund.

In the midst of all this, California remains a dangerously high unemployment state. The jobless of California need help now.

Alaska	\$ 90-\$120
Colorado	\$122
Connecticut	\$122-\$183
Delaware	\$140
Washington, D.C.	\$160
Hawaii	\$126
Idaho	\$110
Illinois	\$110-\$138
Indiana	\$ 74-\$124
Iowa	\$124
Kansas	\$109
Louisiana	\$130
Maine	\$ 86-\$129
Massachusetts	\$115-\$173
Michigan	\$ 97-\$136
Minnesota	\$122
New Jersey	\$110
New York (to \$125 later in '78)	\$115
North Carolina	\$112
North Dakota	\$115
Ohio	\$111-\$175
Oregon	\$112
Pennsylvania	\$143-\$151
Rhode Island	\$106-\$126
South Carolina	\$111
Utah	\$119
Virginia	\$110
Washington	\$119
West Virginia	\$139
Wisconsin	\$135
Wyoming	\$111

Farmers' Strike Movement Wins Labor's Support

The American Agricultural Movement deserves "the support and assistance of the labor movement," the national AFL-CIO executive council declared at its meeting in Bal Harbour, Fla., this week.

The council said that "the plight of America's family farmers is more serious today than at any

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Report Bares Adverse Effect Of Anti-Worker Comp. Law

More California workers than ever were obliged to fight for the benefits due them under the state's workers' compensation program last year, according to a report just released by Franklin O. Grady, administrative director of the State Division of Industrial Accidents.

Grady reported that California workers filed a record 110,597 new

applications for benefits with the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board (WCAB) during 1977, a 10.8 percent increase over the previous year when 99,788 new claims were filed.

The report was released Monday, just nine days after participants at the California AFL-CIO's conference for working women on "Making the Work Place Safe"

heard Dr. Phillip Polakoff, a nationally recognized expert on occupational health and safety hazards, charge that "the compensation laws are deplorable now."

It disclosed an unusual increase in filings for new benefits in the October-December quarter of 1977—just before AB 155, a law vigorously opposed by the California

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End to Forced Overtime Held Key to Unlock New Jobs

"Should an individual's time be ruled by the large corporations that they work for, or should people have the basic right to live their own lives, on their time?"

That, declared Assemblyman Tom Bates (D-Oakland), is the basic issue involved in AB 1295, a California AFL-CIO-sponsored bill authored by Bates to prohibit employers of 50 or more employees from firing or disciplining employees who refuse to work overtime that was taken up by the Senate Industrial Relations Committee Wednesday.

In his opening statement to the Committee, Bates charged the business community, which is op-

posing the bill, with attempting to "cloud the issue" with "rhetoric and misinformation," and declared:

"Business decided that AB 1295 would become a test of their political strength. They wanted a show of strength, and the issues be damned," he observed.

"That is their choice but meanwhile there are thousands of hard-working Californians who are tremendously concerned about this issue," he said.

"They are not talking about political power games or how much clout they can exert on TV—they are talking about basic rights—the right to control your

own time, the right to see your family, the right to be free from harassment and intimidation on the job, the right to pursue an education after work, the right to take care of your kids, the right to take a weekend without fear of being fired, the right to enjoy their own lives."

Pointing out that the 50-employee provision exempts more than 95 percent of the businesses in California, Bates noted that the five percent that would be covered by the bill are those employers who employ two-thirds of the state's private sector employees and "are generally the largest corporations and businesses in

this state."

"I am sure that with good management practices, they can always get people to work when they need them," he said.

Among the major business organizations opposing the bill are the California Manufacturers Assn. (CMA) and the California Chamber of Commerce, which has said that the business community will accept no amendments to the bill and is determined to defeat it.

U.S. auto makers with plants in California are also opposing the bill, maintaining that if just one worker refused to work overtime, it could shut down the whole assembly line.

In repudiating these and other so-called "business climate" claims, Bates observed:

"California has the market, the resources, the labor skills, the research institutions, the access to information, the transportation centers, the ports, the media and the climate. If businesses are looking for cheap labor or right-to-work states, they don't come here anyway."

The real issue swirling around AB 1295, Bates said, is jobs.

"I believe that if forced overtime is eliminated in this state, thousands of new jobs for California's unemployed will be created

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Farmers' Strike Movement Wins Labor's Support

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me since the dust bowl" but pointed out that the crisis today is "man-made, not a natural disaster."

It placed the blame for the deteriorating economic conditions on the growth of corporate farming, insufficient regulation of commodity speculators and international grain traders, and high interest rates and charged that these factors have created "a blight for farmers far worse than any nature could supply."

Noting that the AAM has called a farm strike as a last resort in the same way that union workers are sometimes forced to strike, the council's statement said:

"Family farmers are threatened by corporate and foreign takeover of farmland, which would also leave consumers at the mercy of corporate monopolies and absentee land owners.

"Obviously the farm strike is a legitimate exercise of their right as Americans to withhold their labor when conditions are unfair.

"Just as we believe that workers are entitled to a fair wage for their labor, we believe farmers are entitled to a fair return for their labor.

"Therefore, the AFL-CIO pledges to work with labor's traditional allies in the farm community in the pursuit of that goal.

"We urge the Congress and the Administration to seek speedy, effective solutions to the crisis in American agriculture tailored to meet the needs of the family farmer but denied to corporate farmers and to commodity speculators."

The council called on AFL-CIO state central bodies "to continue to work with the family farm organizations in their state in pursuit of mutual goals."

The council also charged that "right wing corporate interests, working through the ultra-conservative, big-business oriented Farm Bureau Federation, have launched a propaganda attack against the labor movement designed to alienate family farmers from their traditional allies."

The statement pointed out that throughout American political history, alliances between workers and family farmers have forged progressive social and economic programs to benefit average Americans.

"The traditional bond between workers and family farmers must not be allowed to be severed by cheap political propaganda," the council declared.

Hess of Plumbers Named to State Housing Board

George Hess, a leader in the Plumbers Union in Northern California for years, has been appointed to the Commission on Housing and Community Development by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

Hess, business manager and financial secretary-treasurer of Plumbers Local 444 which encompasses all of Alameda County, was named to the nine-member Commission to replace Donald DeLutis of San Francisco, who resigned.

The commission deals with state housing laws, mobile homes and mobile home parks and holds hearings and makes recommendations to the legislature for needed changes in housing and community development laws.

The appointment, which is to a term expiring October 10, 1981, requires Senate confirmation.

Report Bares Adverse Effect Of Anti-Worker Comp. Law

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AFL-CIO, went into effect on January 1, 1978.

AB 155 reduces an employer's liability for occupational disease and cumulative injuries to workers from the existing five years to just one year by January 1, 1981.

"The flood of new appeals to the WCAB indicates that workers' comp. attorneys recognized the need to protect their clients' cases by filing before the new law went into effect," John F. Henning, executive officer of the California AFL-CIO, said.

The new law was pushed by the private insurance industry, the State Compensation Insurance Fund and the Brown Administration.

In the course of hearings on the bill last year it was brought out that the state's general insurance carriers would save some \$600 million a year as a result of shifting the cost from insurance companies to last-hire employers and the self-insured.

The California AFL-CIO opposed the bill because it will eliminate the liability of employers responsible for a worker's exposure to on-the-job hazards by restricting this liability to the employer of the most recent year.

In denouncing AB 155 last June, the California Labor Federation's Executive Council warned that its passage will make it "even harder for older workers with prior

work experience in jobs found or suspected of involving cumulative injury or disease hazards to find work."

Moreover, the Council said, it will result "in sharp cost increases" to employers who will be forced to resort to more expensive methods of screening new employees.

The total of 28,256 new applications for benefits filed in the October-December quarter of 1977 was 13.8 percent higher than the 24,843 applications filed in the comparable quarter of 1976. This jump in applications is further reflected in the fact that in the October-December quarter of 1975 the number of applications filed in contested cases was 24,869, nearly the same as in 1976.

In fact, some 9,757 new applications for benefits in contested cases were filed with the WCAB in December of 1977 alone, the report disclosed. This compares with a total of 8,296 in December 1976 and a total of 7,337 in December 1975.

Awards to injured and ill workers for permanent disability, death benefits and compromise and release agreements in contested cases totaled \$357,500,682 and involved some 88,516 California workers in 1977, the report disclosed. This compares with awards totaling \$352,003,022 involving some 83,052 workers in

1976.

In response to an inquiry by the California AFL-CIO News, a spokesman for the State Department of Industrial Relations acknowledged that the rise in claim filings in the last quarter of 1977 was unusual and said that between 13 and 14 percent of workers filing applications for benefits in contested cases were denied benefits completely.

This is significant in light of the fact that in establishing the workers' compensation program, workers gave up their right to sue the negligent employer for actual damages in exchange for a virtual guarantee of a limited recovery.

Total benefits paid in 1977 for California workers under the state's Workers Compensation program are estimated to range between \$800 million and \$850 million by the California Workers' Compensation Institute, a San Francisco-based organization which serves the insurance industry. An institute spokesman said that a solid figure would not be available until April.

Nonetheless, the estimate suggests that substantially more than one-third of industrially disabled California workers are paid only if the worker elects to fight for his benefits.

Total benefits paid in 1976, according to the Institute, were \$724,341,000 and in 1975 \$626,595,000.

AFL-CIO Backs Building of Sundesert Nuclear Plant

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conservation measures, energy needs will grow in California as well as in the nation as a whole" and declared:

"An adequate, reliable, economic supply of energy is essential to a healthy economy, to the establishment and maintenance of employment opportunities, and to the improvement of the quality of life in the United States."

It also noted that construction of the plant "will involve direct employment of more than 2,500 workers and two million man-hours of construction labor."

In addition, the statement said, other employment opportunities will be created in connection with facilities associated with the plant, including housing, roads and schools.

"Failure to certify needed power plants as in the Sundesert case may risk statewide energy shortages and otherwise cause severe economic dislocations, falling with particular harshness on the working people of California," the Council declared.

California AFL-CIO-backed legislation to exempt the Sundesert project from the state's fuel reprocessing and waste storage regulations to help assure that the state will be able to meet its short term energy needs won state Senate approval on a 21 to 10 vote last January 30 and was sent to the Assembly where it was referred to the Assembly Committee on Resources, Land Use and Energy chaired by Assemblyman Victor Calvo (D-Mt. View).

The bill, SB 1015 authored by Senator Newton R. Russell, has not yet been set for a hearing.

A committee aide said this week that it will have to be heard first by the Subcommittee on Energy chaired by Assemblyman Terry Goggin (D-San Bernardino). Other members of the subcommittee in-

clude: Tom Bates (D-Oakland); Jim Ellis (R-San Diego); Mel Levine (D-Santa Monica); Henry Mello (D-Monterey); Marilyn Ryan (R-Redondo Beach); and Calvo.

The site for the proposed \$3.2 billion plant is in southeastern California near Blythe in Riverside County.

It would be built by a group composed of the San Diego Gas & Electric Co., the municipal utilities of the cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, Anaheim, Riverside, Glendale and Pasadena and the California Department of Water Resources.

In the course of Senate deliberations, Senator Alfred E. Alquist (D-San Jose) who supports the measure questioned the constitutionality of the state Energy Commission's authority in view of the federal government's jurisdiction over nuclear power control.

Less than two years ago the peo-

ple of California overwhelmingly rejected Proposition 15, a stringent anti-nuclear power measure that had sought to impose a nuclear power ban in the state.

Despite the voters' rejection of Proposition 15, the actions of state agencies during the past two years appear to have imposed a de facto moratorium.

But just last week Governor Brown informed the California Labor Federation that this was not the case and that he did accept the place of nuclear energy as well as other energy sources in meeting the state's energy needs.

An interesting point for legislators deliberating the need for nuclear energy to consider is the fact that last year the Rancho Seco nuclear plant of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District generated at least 58 percent of the electricity used in the metropolitan Sacramento area.

Court Orders Clarifying Changes in Jarvis Summary

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Deletion of the word "property" would indicate to the voters that the measure dealt with the single subject of taxation but with all aspects of taxation, not just property taxes, the Judge said.

Additionally, Perluss said, the summary was defective in not pointing out to the voters that a two-thirds vote by all registered voters, not just those voting at a given election, would be required to raise any and all taxes if the initiative is approved.

He also ordered the attorney general to reword the summary to indicate this restrictive requirement as well.

The Jarvis initiative, which will appear as Proposition 13 on the June primary election ballot,

would limit property taxes to one percent of market value and limit assessed valuation increases to two percent annually.

It would also require a two-thirds vote of the legislature to increase any state taxes such as the state income or sales tax to make up for the estimated \$7 billion in revenue that would be lost if the initiative passes.

"This provision goes far beyond property taxes. It goes to the heart of the power of government to tax," Judge Perluss said.

"If this is what the voters want, that's fine, but shouldn't we tell them what they're getting into," the judge said, pointing out that it is nearly an impossibility to get two-thirds of the registered voters out to vote at election time.

Anti-Labor Report By NEA Rapped As 'Vicious'

A report on the 12th Constitutional convention of the AFL-CIO prepared by a staff member of the National Education Assn. was denounced by John F. Henning, executive officer of the California AFL-CIO, this week as "a vicious and self-serving attempt to ridicule the AFL-CIO in general and its elected officials in particular."

The report, written by Dick Dashiell, an NEA organization specialist, was prepared, according to its cover page "for officers and staff of the National Education Assn. and its affiliated organizations" but is apparently being widely disseminated in California where the California Teachers Assn., an NEA affiliate long dominated by school administrators "has lost ground to the rival AFL-CIO organization, the California Federation of Teachers since passage of the Rodda Act giving teachers collective bargaining rights," Henning said.

He pointed out that since passage of the Rodda Act in September 1975, the number of teachers represented by the AFL-CIO union has more than doubled.

"In contrast," Henning noted, the NEA affiliate claimed a membership of more than 150,000 during the fight for the Rodda Act and now reports a membership of only 153,000 despite its acknowledgement last month that it ran up a \$1.7 million deficit in its last fiscal year in its attempt to defeat the CFT in bargaining rights elections."

"In fact, the CTA's executive director, Ralph Flynn, reported last month that its excessive expenditures has obliged it to lay off 10 percent of its staff, cut its Sacramento lobbying efforts in half, and mortgage a number of some 50 parcels of property it owns throughout the state," Henning said.

"The NEA report stoops to the use of a number of old slanted expressions often found in right wing editorials ranting against a worker's right to organize, such as 'labor barons' and 'AFL-CIO chieftains' in its shoddy attempt to belittle the work of the elected representatives of some 13.5 million AFL-CIO members throughout the nation," Henning charged.

"It even attempts to make an issue out of the fact that AFL-CIO President George Meany walked freely around the headquarters hotel in Los Angeles with 'no phalanx of aides' to protect him.

"The fact that the NEA's leadership would authorize the publication and dissemination of such a poisonous anti-labor report suggests that the NEA itself is suffering from moral anemia," Henning said.

Dubrow Elected As V.P. of ILGWU

Evelyn Dubrow, legislative director of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and executive secretary of its political department, will become a vice-president of the ILGWU on June 1.

She was elected to the post at a recent meeting of the union's executive board in Hollywood, Fla.

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End to Forced Overtime Held Key to Unlock New Jobs

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ed overnight," he said.

Pointing out that the state is already spending hundreds of millions of dollars for unemployment payments, welfare, job training and public employment programs, Bates testified that "restricting compulsory overtime will lead to new hiring, some of it part-time and some of it full-time, and (it) would relieve some of our unemployment burdens."

Moreover, he noted, these jobs would not be make-work jobs—they would be real jobs at good wages in the mainstream of the productive economy."

While acknowledging that the bill is "no panacea for unemployment," Bates said that it would be "an important step in breaking down some of the rigidity in the labor market concerning new hiring."

SAFETY FACTOR CITED

Bates also maintained that the legislation was needed as a matter of on the job safety.

"Allowing people the right to choose overtime will limit the number of accidents which occur," he said.

In puncturing business claims that the bill would "interfere with their right to manage," the Oakland Democrat observed that:

"Management should manage 40 hours of a person's time. That's the workweek which was established 40 years ago. That's not at issue here. But should management manage a person's time after their workday is supposedly over? That's the change we're talking about."

"If management did some real managing, and many of them do, they would never have to force

anyone to work overtime except in emergencies," Bates said.

Basically, he said, the business community is "telling us that they cannot accommodate the individual to the production process" but he urged the members of the Senate Industrial Relations Committee to look at the companies that are opposing the bill.

HUGE PROFITS AT GM

"General Motors made a profit of over \$1 billion in one quarter of this year; the telephone company is the biggest company in the world, with billions of dollars in revenue and assets, and a monopoly which reaches into everyone's life. Are they telling us that they can't hire an extra person to put in a teenager's extension phone on Saturday?" he asked.

John F. Henning, executive officer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, summed up the workers' opposition to compulsory overtime, saying:

"Why should any worker risk his job simply because he refuses to work overtime?"

He charged that historically "big business" has always opposed social change in America, particularly when the change was at the cost of business profits.

Others testifying at the hearing included: Jim Wood of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, who charged that workers are used on overtime "in order to solve bad management planning"; Ken Major and Al Brose of the CWA; and Jim Stanton of the IBEW.

The Wednesday hearing was limited to hearing testimony.

The Committee is expected to vote on the bill at a meeting on **Wednesday, March 15.**



RALLYING TO OUTLAW FORCED OVERTIME, hundreds of union members hear Assemblyman Tom Bates (D-Oakland) attack the "stonewall attitude" that the business community has assumed in opposition to AB 1295, a California AFL-CIO-sponsored bill authored by Bates that would prohibit firms with 50 or more employees from firing or disciplining workers who refuse to work overtime. Other speakers at the rally included: John F. Henning, executive officer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO; Dina Beaumont, an international vice-president of the CWA; Richard Groulx, executive officer of the Alameda County Central Labor Council; R. R. Richardson, executive officer of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council; and Tony Cannata, executive officer of the Contra Costa County Central Labor Council. Groulx and Beaumont are also vice-presidents of the California AFL-CIO. The rally was held Tuesday at the 11th and L Street entrance to the state capitol, the day before a Senate hearing on the bill.

AFL-CIO Calls for Rollback of Social Security Tax

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posals, supported by the AFL-CIO, would have avoided new payroll tax increases for most workers, but were overturned in Congress.

While social security is now on a sound actuarial basis, low and middle-income workers contribute a higher proportion of their income than do the wealthy, the council said.

The statement noted that the AFL-CIO "has repeatedly stated that the payroll tax should be supplemented by general revenues and that now is the time for Congress to use general revenue funding to reduce the existing tax burden and to avoid future tax rate

increases now scheduled in the law."

The current rate effective as of Jan. 1, 1978 is 6.05 percent.

Next year the rate is scheduled to rise to 6.13 percent.

The council called for a rollback to the 1977 rate of 5.85 percent and for all scheduled future tax rate increases to be replaced by general revenues.

It singled out for support in principle a bill introduced by Rep. James A. Burke (D-Mass.) that would have one-third of the cost of social security financed by a government contribution.

The council pointed out that the rollback to 5.85 percent in 1979

would reduce taxes on employers by \$2.6 billion, on employees by \$2.5 billion and on the self-employed by \$3 billion for a total of \$5.4 billion.

"The rollback in the social security tax rate would provide an effective stimulus to consumer buying power and benefit both employees and employers through reduced social security tax payments," the council said.

It reiterated its opposition to alternative sources of financing social security, including sales or value-added taxes, "which would continue to place the financing burden on those least able to bear it."

Tax Law Aids Rich and Perils Public Jobs, Labor Warns

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bill won final Senate approval late yesterday afternoon by a vote of 32 to 6.

Henning warned that the bill's failure to require state revenue sharing in conjunction with the imposition of ceilings on local government revenues "will result in a de facto freeze on the wages and salaries of public workers at a time when the U. S. dollar appears to be facing further devaluation."

"Moreover," Henning said, "the primary funding for this tax cut is based on the perilously shifting sands of the existing state surplus. What happens when that surplus no longer exists? he asked.

A. Alan Post, who retired last August after 28 years of distinguished service as the state's legislative analyst, attacked both the tax relief measure (SB 1 authored by Senator Peter Behr (R-San Rafael)) and the Jarvis Initiative (Proposition 13) in an address to government officials in Anaheim yesterday.

Said Post:

"Regardless of which bill takes effect, they are totally unrealistic approaches (to tax relief). Both would require major adjustments by local government, either now (if Jarvis passes) or incrementally (under the Behr plan)."

Post predicted that the Behr

bill would consume the state's current revenue surplus in a few years and leave the state with a general deficit.

But he warned that the Jarvis Initiative, if approved, would wipe out that same surplus almost overnight.

To provide some idea of the adverse impact of the Jarvis Initiative, which proposes to slash property taxes 60 percent without any provision to restore any of the \$7 billion loss in local government revenues that this would require, Post pointed out that the legislature would have to boost income taxes by 33 percent, increase the state's sales tax from 6 to 7¼ percent and hike the bank and corporation tax from 9 percent to 17.5 percent.

Post warned that the Jarvis Amendment would also force an uneven cut in funds for school districts, with poorer districts being saddled with the brunt of the burden.

The poorer districts "would be decimated by Jarvis; the rich ones would not be hurt so much," he said.

The Behr bill would cut all homeowner property taxes at least 30 percent, with the loss in revenue to local government being made up through state assumption of the homeowner's share of some welfare programs and by state payments to local agencies.

Prior to Senate action on the bill yesterday, Henning had sent wires to all members of the upper house saying:

"California Labor Federation is

totally opposed to SB 1 which may soon be before the Senate. Imposition of local government revenue ceiling without any provision for revenue sharing is disastrous for public and private workers who provide services and contract construction.

"Ceiling creates 'little Jarvis' effect for AFL-CIO.

"SB 1 has no cap on home values so gives relief to wealthiest in state, yet a provision to provide greater benefits to disabled has been dropped.

"We also protest benefit to all without regard to income. Cap on personal income and home values will save millions of dollars. We strongly urge a 'No' vote."

The Coalition for Tax Justice includes:

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO; Citizens' Action League; Campaign for Economic Democracy; Congress of California Seniors; California Tax Reform Association; Americans for Democratic Action; AFSCME; International Association of Fire Fighters; SEIU; ILWU; California State Building & Construction Trades Council; UAW; Steelworkers; CWA; State Council, Retail Clerks; Laborers International Union; California Federation of Teachers; United Transportation Union; Operating Engineers; Friends Committee on Legislation; California Rural Legal Assistance; Western Center on Law and Poverty; City of Oakland; National Association of Retired Federal Employees, and the Leg-

Federation-Sponsored Class for Women to Start at U. S. F.

A special course for "Women in the Work Force" co-sponsored by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, will open at the Labor Management School at the University of San Francisco next Tuesday, March 7.

The nine-week course, which will be held every Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:20 p.m. through May 2, is designed to familiarize working women with the basic elements of collective bargaining, equal employment opportunity, non-traditional employment, the importance of organizing, and health and safety for women in the workplace.

Tuition for the course is \$40 plus a registration fee of \$2.00. Parking permits may be obtained for \$2.50.

FED AID AVAILABLE

In the interests of encouraging

attendance, however, the California Labor Federation will provide tuition assistance of \$20 for AFL-CIO union members who enroll. For further information, contact Kathleen Kinnick, the Federation's director of Women's Activities at 995 Market Street, Suite 310, San Francisco, Ca. 94103 or phone 415-986-3585.

In addition, the spring semester at the USF Labor Management School is also offering four other courses: (1) Applied Assertiveness Theory; (2) Collective Bargaining Procedures; (3) Conflict Resolutions at the Unionized Plant; and (4) Legal Rights and Obligations of Employers and Unions and Their Members.

Further information on any of the other four courses offered by the school may be obtained by phoning (415) 666-6236.

islative Council for Older Americans.

Henning said he was "deeply disappointed" by action taken by Senator Behr this week when the Senator inserted an amendment dropping disabled persons from coverage under the senior citizens tax assistance program in the bill.

Henning pointed out that at the same time Senator Behr was deleting coverage for the disabled to keep the costs of SB 1 down, he rejected a proposal that the 30 percent property tax relief be limited to a certain level of property value—such as \$200,000.

"To strip the disabled of coverage under the bill and then refuse to put a cap on benefits to the wealthy amounts to nothing less than helping the rich at the expense of the disabled poor," Henning charged.

"An across-the-board percentage reduction is the least progressive means of providing property tax relief," Henning pointed out.

"The lack of any ceiling on the amount of assessed value eligible for tax relief means that the state's wealthiest home owners living in the most expensive homes will receive the same 30 percent reduction as low and moderate income home owners who pay a much larger percentage of their total income to support government services," he explained.

"Beyond that," he noted, "the 30 percent reduction provided in SB 1 will apply not only to current tax bills but to any future property tax increases.

"The bill is just fundamentally unfair and poses a special jeopardy to the jobs of public workers," he declared.

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THE CALIFORNIA AFL-CIO's

DIGEST OF BILLS

The measures below introduced in the 1977-78 regular session of the California Legislature are classified by the California Labor Federation as "Good," "Bad," or "Watch†". An asterisk (*) indicates a bill sponsored by the California Labor Federation. A "Watch†" designation indicates that the Federation will defer to the wishes of affected affiliates on the ultimate classification of the bill. Such bills are printed in the digest to inform affiliates involved. No bill may be taken up until 30 days after the date of introduction indicated in the digest, except by a three-quarters vote. When the abbreviation (H.A.D.) appears in the digest following the author's name, it means that the measure has been held at the Speaker's desk in the House of origin and has not yet been assigned to a committee.

SENATE BILLS

SB 1360 — Deukmejian (Jud.) — Existing law provides that all money received by a resident as a pension, or as an annuity, retirement, disability, death or other benefit from a public entity is exempt from execution, attachment, or garnishment, except with regard to court-ordered child or spousal support payments.

This bill would similarly exempt money received from specified private retirement plans. January 12, 1978. **Executions—Good**

SB 1365 — Dunlap (Ed.) — This bill would substantially revise the existing classification scheme for community college certificated employees and would, instead, provide for the employment of instructional certificated personnel as regular, contract, continuing part-time, part-time, casual, long-term substitute, short-term substitute, and special program employees. This bill would define each such category, prescribe specified rights for such category, and would generally provide for the manner of non-reemployment, and dismissal of such employees.

This bill would impose a limit on the number of courses per term assigned to a regular employee in an overload assignment and would also impose a limit on the number of courses per term assigned to a regular employee of any other community college district and a permanent employee of a school district.

This bill would require each community college district to report specified information concerning employment patterns and practices to the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges and would require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to prepare and report annually to the Legislature a statewide report commencing January 1, 1981, concerning part-time employment patterns and practices.

This bill would become operative on July 1, 1979. January 12, 1978. **Education—Watch†**

SB 1391 — Greene (I. R.) — Existing law permits the Department of Industrial Relations to investigate and mediate labor disputes, and to arbitrate or arrange for the selection of arbitration boards.

This bill would provide that such services be conducted by a unit within the department to be known as the California State Mediation and Conciliation Service. January 23, 1978.

Labor Code—Watch

SB 1415 — Foran (Jud.) — Existing law makes no specific provision for the filing of an undertaking by the plaintiff in an action seeking to enjoin a construction project.

This bill would make such a provision in those situations where the defendant after noticed motion for an order requiring the filing of an undertaking is found, in a court hearing, to have established that the plaintiff has no reasonable possibility of obtaining a judgment against the defendant and that the plaintiff will not suffer undue economic hardship by filing the undertaking.

This bill would require the court, upon a finding for the moving defendant, to order the plaintiff to file an undertaking in an amount specified by the court as security for costs, attorney's fees, and damages of the moving defendant incurred by the conclusion of the action or proceeding as a result of a delay in the construction of the project.

It would also provide that an action on the undertaking pursuant to this bill must be brought in the same manner as for other specified undertakings, and it would provide that the prevailing party is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

The bill would specify certain types of activities which are included in a construction project.

This bill would not apply to actions brought by the state, a county, or a municipal corporation. January 25, 1978. **Miscellaneous—Good**

KEY TO SENATE ABBREVIATIONS

Committee Abbreviations	Committee
(Agr. & Wat. Res.)	Agriculture and Water Resources
(B. & P.)	Business and Professions
(Ed.)	Education
(E. & R.)	Elections and Reapportionment
(Fin.)	Finance
(G.O.)	Governmental Organization
(H. & W.)	Health and Welfare
(I.R.)	Industrial Relations
(I. & F.I.)	Insurance and Financial Institutions
(Jud.)	Judiciary
(L. Gov.)	Local Government
(N.R. & W.)	Natural Resources and Wildlife
(P.E. & R.)	Public Employment and Retirement
(P.U., T., & E.)	Public Utilities, Transit and Energy
(Rev. & Tax.)	Revenue and Taxation
(Ris.)	Rules
(Trans.)	Transportation

KEY TO ASSEMBLY ABBREVIATIONS

Committee Abbreviations	Committee
(Agri.)	Agriculture
(Crim. J.)	Criminal Justice
(Ed.)	Education
(Elec. & Reap.)	Elections and Reapportionment
(Fin., Ins., & Com.)	Finance, Insurance, and Commerce
(G.O.)	Governmental Organization
(Health)	Health
(H. & C.D.)	Housing and Community Development
(Human Res.)	Human Resources
(Jud.)	Judiciary
(L., E. & C.A.)	Labor, Employment and Consumer Affairs
(L. Gov.)	Local Government
(P.E. & Ret.)	Public Employees and Retirement
(Res., L.U. & E.)	Resources, Land Use, and Energy
(Rev. & Tax.)	Revenue and Taxation
(Ris.)	Rules
(Trans.)	Transportation
(W.P. & W.)	Water, Parks, and Wildlife
(W. & M.)	Ways and Means

ASSEMBLY BILLS

AB 2223 — Duffy (Fin., Ins., & Com.) — Existing law provides that when an injury causes death, an employer is liable under the workers' compensation law for, among other things, the reasonable burial expenses of an employee, up to \$1,000.

This bill would increase such amount to \$1,500. . . . January 16, 1978. **Workers' Compensation—Good**

***AB 2227 — Boatwright (Res., L. U., & E.)** — (1) Under the California Environmental Quality Act, all public agencies, state and local, are generally required to prepare or cause to be prepared an impact report, and certify the completion of, an environmental impact report on any discretionary project, as defined, they propose to carry out or approve which may result in a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in the environment. Such report is required to include a detailed statement setting forth specified information.

This bill would, in addition, require that an environmental impact report for nonhousing projects estimated to cost in excess of \$5,000,000, or projects involving the construction of more than 100 units of housing, contain a statement of the economic impact of the project of specified content, but would require such information to be included in the case of any project directly undertaken by a local agency for which there is no project applicant only at the discretion of such local agency. The bill would require an environmental impact report for a nonhousing project which has an estimated cost of less than such amount or a project which involves the construction of 100 or fewer housing units to contain such information at the request of the project applicant. Such provisions would remain in effect only until January 1, 1983, and would be applicable only to draft environmental impact reports completed and published after the effective date of the bill. The bill would declare legislative intent in connection with such requirements.

(2) Under the act, no public agency may approve or carry out a project for which an environmental impact report has been completed which identifies one or more significant effects thereof unless such public agency makes one, or more, of certain specified findings.

This bill would, in addition, specify that no public agency shall be required to approve or disapprove or carry out or refrain from carrying out a project solely on the basis of information contained in an environmental impact report. . . . January 16, 1978.

Ecology—Good

AB 2231—Hayden (Rev. & Tax.)— . . . This bill would exempt from state and local sales taxes service charges which are a part of the selling price of meals and which are made in lieu of tips and are paid over by the retailer to his employees.

This bill would also provide that no appropriation is made and the state shall not reimburse local agencies for sales tax revenues lost by them pursuant to this bill.

This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy. January 16, 1978. **Taxation—Watch**

AB 2236 — Thurman (Trans.) — Existing law defines a farm labor bus and a farm labor truck as a bus or truck, operated or leased by a farmer or farm labor contractor, used for transportation of 7 or more employees of a farmer or farm labor contractor.

This bill would delete those definitions and replace them with a definition of "farm labor vehicle."

The new definition of farm labor vehicle would not apply to vehicles carrying only the immediate family members of the owner or driver. . . . January 16, 1978. **Labor Unions—Watch**

AB 2242 — Collier (Ed.) — Existing law generally provides that the Department of Education and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges shall administer in the respective schools under their jurisdiction various vocational education classes and programs.

This bill would create a State Board of Vocational Education, to be composed of 11 members, and would prescribe its powers and duties. January 17, 1978. **Education—Watch**

AB 2247 — Mori (L., E., & C. A.) — Existing law provides that the Agricultural Labor Relations Board may delegate specified powers to the personnel of the regional offices.

This bill would, in addition, permit the board to delegate such powers to the regional directors, and would specify that the general

counsel shall have the power to appoint regional directors, subject to the approval of the board.

Existing law provides that the general counsel has the power to appoint such attorneys, administrative assistants, and other employees as necessary for the proper exercise of his duties.

This bill would, in addition, provide the general counsel with the power to appoint the deputy general counsel, the chief of litigation, the chief of operations, and attorneys and board agents, including officers-in-charge, in the regional offices.

Existing law requires the general counsel to exercise general supervision over all attorneys employed by the board and over the officers and employees in the regional offices.

This bill would, in addition, specify that such general supervision includes the authority to act on personnel matters. January 18, 1978.

Labor Unions—Watch

AB 2251—Keyser (P. E. & Ret.)— . . . This bill would provide that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, any state or local public agency may employ retired persons part time, not to exceed 20 hours per week, without loss of retirement benefits from any public or private source to which such retired person is otherwise entitled, and would specify that any such part-time employment shall not be included for purposes of any additional retirement benefits. January 19, 1978. **Public Employees—Watch**

AB 2274 — Chacon (L., E., & C.A.) — Existing law does not require the Department of Employment Development to compile and publish statistical data indicating the comparative unemployment rate among categories of unemployed persons comparison to the total unemployment rate.

This bill would require the department to compile and publish such data for categories of unemployed persons based on sex, ethnic origin, and age. . . . January 19, 1978.

Unemployment Insurance—Good

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTIONS

AJR 61 — Chimbole (Res., L. U., & E.) — This measure memorializes Congress to ensure that adequate funds are allocated pursuant to the implementation plan for the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act to meet the highest priority needs for earthquake hazard mitigation in California, as specified. January 19, 1978. **Miscellaneous—Good**

AJR 62 — Chappie (Agri.) — This measure would memorialize the President and Congress to take any and all the necessary actions to delay the implementation of the proposed policies as to the 160 acre limitation and other provisions of the Reclamation Law of 1902 until December 31, 1978, in order that such law may be amended to reflect the needs of modern family farming operations in California and the United States. January 19, 1978.

Reclamation—Bad

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SJR 33 — Ayala (Ris.) — This measure would request the Department of the Interior to impose a two-year moratorium on implementation of proposed rules and regulations for the Bureau of Reclamation and to prepare an environmental impact statement prior to implementing such rules and regulations. The measure would also memorialize the President and the Congress to amend the Reclamation Law of 1902 to insure that federal reclamation law is meaningful and realistic in relation to present-day agricultural conditions. January 3, 1978. **Reclamation—Bad**

SJR 35—Dennis Carpenter (Ris.)—Urges the Congress of the United States, either acting by consent of two-thirds of both houses or, upon the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, to call a constitutional convention to propose an amendment to the Federal Constitution to require, with certain exceptions, that the total of all federal appropriations may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues in any fiscal year. January 26, 1978.

State and Local Government—Bad