



January 21, 2011

## Realignment Talks Highlight the Week

It has been a busy week in Sacramento. On Wednesday, CSAC Officers convened a meeting of CSAC affiliates to discuss the “vast and historic” realignment of services to county governments. Nearly 40 county affiliate representatives - representing functions across the diverse set of programs and services provided by counties - and approximately 70 individuals - participated in the meeting. The forum presented an opportunity for an honest and frank discussion among county officials from across the state, all of whom have a significant stake in the details big and small in the realignment proposal. For more details on this meeting, check CSAC’s blog, [The County Voice](#).

The CSAC Executive Committee met on Thursday and heard first hand from California Finance Director Ana Matosantos regarding the budget proposals of Governor Jerry Brown. Ana emphasized the partnership approach in the budget, while acknowledging that some of the cuts proposed would heavily impact counties.

CSAC Officers also met Thursday with Assemblyman Bob Blumenfield, Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee. Mr. Blumenfield has already scheduled two major hearings on the realignment proposal, the first to be held in the Los Angeles County Supervisors Chambers on February 4 and the second in the Capitol on February 14. CSAC will provide more details on these meetings as they become available, but parties interested in this issue may want to attend one of those hearings.

Supervisors Greg Cox (San Diego) and Valerie Brown (Sonoma) are chairing the CSAC Realignment Working Group (RWG) and met with CSAC Officers this week. The weekly conference calls of the working group will resume Friday, January 28. Meetings of the technical advisory committees are being scheduled for next week to begin a detailed analysis of the programs proposed for realignment. In addition, CSAC staff will be meeting with Department of Finance staff to learn more details of the proposal and obtain data on caseload and revenues assumptions to assist in the analysis.

CSAC is developing a communications tool specific to the realignment proposal to keep county officials apprised of progress in those discussions. This as-yet unnamed newsletter will be sent to supervisors and CAOs statewide, as well as those participating in the Realignment Working Group.

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