



Impact of Proposed Reduction to Child Welfare Services (CWS) (Revised—April 2008)

- In February 2008, we estimated the proposed reduction to CWS would result in an overall decrease of 522 full-time equivalent (FTE) social workers. This number represents a decrease when compared to the 2007-08 budget. Compared to the Governor’s 2008-09 workload budget, the proposed reduction to CWS would result in an overall decrease of 630 FTE social workers statewide.

- After further discussion of our analysis with the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the County Welfare Directors Association, we have revised our methodology to (1) correct a technical error with regard to inflationary adjustments, and (2) recognize a portion of county overmatch funds. The figure below provides revised estimates for the number of counties meeting SB 2030 minimum standards in 2007-08, and in 2008-09, assuming adoption of the reduction. This presentation assumes that the proposed reduction would be allocated 75 percent to social worker support, and 25 percent to other CWS programs.

| Estimated Percentage of CWS Cases Meeting SB 2030^a Minimum Standards | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| | 2007-08 | | Proposed 2008-09 | |
| | Number of Counties | Percentage of Cases | Number of Counties | Percentage of Cases |
| Exceeds standards | 18 | 11.0% | 12 | 4.0% |
| From 90%-99% of standards | 10 | 10.4 | 2 | 3.5 |
| From 80%-89% of standards | 8 | 36.9 | 11 | 42.4 |
| From 70%-79% of standards | 6 | 5.6 | 8 | 8.5 |
| Less than 70% of standards | 16 | 36.2 | 25 | 41.6 |

^a In 2000, Chapter 785, Statutes of 1998 (SB 2030, Costa), required DSS to develop a Child Welfare Services Workload Study, now commonly known as the SB 2030 Study.