

**PLEASE OPPOSE THE IHSS BUDGET CUTS**  
**Key Points on IHSS Budget issues 2008**

- **There is a real-life impact that will hurt people by cutting essential IHSS hours** for “Domestic and Related Services. The nature of the 18% services cut (meal preparation, meal cleanup, house cleaning, laundry, and errands) are so pervasive they affect 96% of program consumers and these reductions have the potential for serious outcomes for consumers' health and safety.
- **There are negative domino consequences** on seniors and people with disabilities with the multiple proposed cuts on IHSS, SSI/SSP, Medi-Cal, Adult Protective Services, and regional centers.
- **We need a fair balancing of this deficit crisis with a combination approach** that includes some revenue raising as well as targeted program cuts to non-essential services (as opposed to across the board cuts).
- **We object to the underlying premise** from the Administration is that IHSS “family providers” will continue to provide these services for no pay. “Family providers” includes relatives who do not live with the consumer, who have no obligation to work for free, and who are doing this work instead of other work which might pay more.
- **The proposed cut is a double-hit on IHSS consumers who have already had their hours reduced to take into account shared living arrangements.** When the consumer lives with a roommate or attendant, the assessment of need for domestic and related services is prorated and reduces the number of hours approved for domestic and related services.
- **The proposed cuts contradict the recent state-funded IHSS Quality Assurance program and its Hourly Task Guidelines** and many consumers will fall below the minimum number of hours needed to remain safely in their homes.
- **The IHSS program is a cost-effective part of California’s long-term care system,** enabling thousands of Californians - including seniors and persons with disabilities - to stay out of nursing homes other institutions.
- **The cut in IHSS hours means less income for home care providers, and that will result in a more limited supply of home care providers.**
- **Many IHSS providers will lose their health benefits if the cuts are implemented.**
- **The cut to IHSS undermines California’s compliance with the landmark 1999 Supreme Court decision in Olmstead,** – in which the Court affirmed that unnecessary institutionalization of people with disabilities violates the Americans with Disabilities Act.



A coalition of Californians  
dedicated to preserving  
in home care for seniors  
and people with disabilities

## HOME CARE DESERVES OUR SUPPORT:

- ✓ As the foundation of California's long-term care system, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) has enjoyed **strong bi-partisan political support** throughout its history.
- ✓ In-Home Care is extremely cost effective and a bargain for California taxpayers. **Studies show that IHSS is some 5 to 7 times cheaper than impersonal institutional care.**
- ✓ Besides cost-effectiveness, In-Home Care provides **the highest level of personal, long-term care**. A consumer-directed program, IHSS serves as the **foundation of independent living** for people with disabilities.
- ✓ In-Home Care provides for the highest **quality of life for our seniors**, enabling them to live their remaining years in their own homes, surrounded by their loved ones and cherished memories.
- ✓ IHSS is an admirable profession. **Training programs provide career advancement opportunities** in the health care field. IHSS providers move on to become Certified Nurses Assistants, Licensed Vocational Nurses and other valuable, esteemed health care professionals.
- ✓ **In-Home Care keeps families together**. Because of IHSS, disabilities and chronic illnesses do not separate family members from their loved ones.

Consider this: **You – or someone you love – may face disability or serious illness at some time in your life.** Will IHSS be there for you when your time of need arrives?

**With all of our continued support ...  
IHSS will be there.**