

**EXTREMELY URGENT ACTION ALERT!**  
**Calls Needed Today!**

**SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT!!!**

The Budget Conference Committee voted yesterday to reduce state funding for domestic violence services through the Department of Public Health by **20%**. Please join us in calling the members of the Budget Conference Committee to let them know that California shelters **CANNOT** sustain a **20%** cut, and that we must protect our state's vulnerable domestic violence survivors and their children.

The legislature agreed on a 20% reduction, with plans to revisit the issue and consider even further cuts. Between now and then it is imperative that we let them know the devastating impact this would have on programs throughout the state. Despite our efforts to educate members, in making this decision they relied on information from the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office that did not paint an accurate picture of our needs. **Please make your calls today to set the record straight.**

**Setting the Record Straight (important talking points):**

- **Half of the state-funded domestic violence shelters receive 30% of their funding from the DPH-Domestic Violence Program.**
- **Further funding cuts would impact shelters' ability to provide 24 hour life-saving services.**
- **Additional funding cuts will result in the closure of some domestic violence shelters, specifically in rural communities where up to 80% of their budget comes from the State.**
- **Shelters are seeing a severe decline in the amount of private donations and community support due to the economic downturn.**
- **Domestic Violence services provided through the Battered Women's Shelter Program have proven to save lives and billions of dollars in health care, criminal justice and other social services costs. The legislature is turning a blind eye to the most vulnerable people in California by proposing such drastic cuts.**
- **Every year, more than 7000 California women and children are turned away from shelter due to lack of resources.**

**Please Call ASAP!**

Assemblymember Noreen Evans, Chair, Budget Conference Committee (916) 319-207  
Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny, Vice Chair, Budget Conference Committee - (916)  
651-4040

Senator Alan Lowenthal, Member, Budget Conference Committee - (916) 651-4027  
Senator Mark Leno, Member, Budget Conference Committee - (916) 651-4003  
Senator Bob Dutton, Member, Budget Conference Committee - (916) 651-4031  
Senator Mimi Walters, Member, Budget Conference Committee - (916) 651-4033  
Assemblymember Kevin de León, Member, Budget Conference Committee - (916) 319-2045  
Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield, Member, Budget Conference Committee - (916) 319-2040  
Assemblymember Roger Niello, Member, Budget Conference Committee - (916) 319-2005

**PASS THIS ON!**

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