# The State Budget and Educational Funding



Mac Taylor Legislative Analyst April 17, 2009



### Prologue: The 2008-09 Budget



## Current-Year Budget Passed in Late September

- Latest state budget.
- Passed with many one-time solutions.
- Underlying budget shortfall in the \$6 billion to \$8 billion range.



## **Economic Downturn Began Shortly After Budget Passage**

- Estimates of revenue shortfalls over 2008-09 and 2009-10:
  - November 2008: \$25 billion to \$30 billion
  - January 2009: \$40 billion



#### Magnitude of the Problem

- \$40 billion is over 40 percent of General Fund Budget.
- Coming on the heels of an exceptionally difficult year.
- 2009-10 budget passed in February of this year—the earliest ever.



# The February State Budget Package



### The Budget Solution

	2008-09	2009-10	Two-Year Totals
Expenditure Reductions	\$6.7	\$8.6	\$15.4
Revenue Increases	1.5	11.0	12.5
Federal Fund Offset	2.8	5.7	8.5
Borrowing	0.3	5.1	5.4
Totals	\$11.3	\$30.3	\$41.7



### Reduces Spending by \$15 Billion

	2008-09	2009-10	Two-Year Totals
Education	\$5.8	\$2.6	\$8.4
Health/Social Services	0.1	1.5	1.6
State Employee Costs	0.3	0.8	1.2
Higher Education	0.1	0.8	0.9
Transportation	0.3	0.4	0.7
Other	0.2	2.5	2.6
Totals	\$6.8	\$8.6	\$15.4



### **Increases Revenues by \$13 Billion**

	2008-09	2009-10	Two-Year Totals
Sales Tax Increase (1 cent per dollar)	\$1.2	\$4.6	\$5.8
Personal Income Tax Increase (0.25 percentage rate increase)	_	3.7	3.7
Vehicle License Fee Increase (0.65 percent to 1.15 percent)	0.3	1.7	2.0
Reduce Dependent Credit	_	1.4	1.4
Various new tax credits	_	-0.3	-0.3
Totals	\$1.5	\$11.0	\$12.5



### Relies on \$5 Billion in Borrowing

	2008-09	2009-10	Two-Year Totals
Lottery securitization	_	\$5.0	\$5.0
Special fund loans	\$0.3	0.1	0.4
Totals	\$0.3	\$5.1	\$5.4



#### **Federal Stimulus Funds**

- Assumes \$8.5 billion in federal stimulus funds.
  - Mostly in health
  - Includes \$1.1 billion in general purpose funds
  - Assumes backfill of \$510 million veto in UC/CSU funding



## Final Package Includes Seven Budget-Related Ballot Measures

- Proposition 1A—State finance
- Proposition 1B—Proposition 98
- Proposition 1C—Lottery
- Proposition 1D—Proposition 10
- Proposition 1E—Proposition 63
- Proposition 1F—Officials' salaries
- Open primaries (June 2010)



# The February Proposition 98 Package



## Budget Package First Reduced 2008-09 Proposition 98 Budget

- Revised K-14 funding level of \$50.7 billion.
- Reduction of \$7.4 billion from September 2008-09 Budget Act.
- K-12 schools—not community colleges—absorb bulk of reductions.



## 2008-09 Proposition 98: Reductions Not as Severe as They Might Seem

- Only \$2.4 billion in programmatic reductions.
  - \$944 million from categorical programs
  - \$944 million from revenue limits
  - \$287 million retraction of 0.68 percent COLA
- Remaining \$5 billion—deferred payments or backfill with one-time funds.



### 2009-10 Proposition 98 Budget

- K-14 funding level of \$54.9 billion.
- All new funding goes to backfill one-time funds used in 2008-09.
- Budget-year package includes about \$700 million in additional cuts.
  - \$268 million from categorical programs
  - \$268 million from revenue limits



## Major Changes to Categorical Program Funding Rules

- Budget deal allows districts to use most categorical program funding for any purpose.
  - Roughly 40 programs included in flexibility provisions
  - Roughly 20 programs "protected" from transfers out



### **Additional Flexibility Provisions**

- Less severe K-3 class size reduction penalties.
- Allows districts to postpone purchase of new instructional materials.
- Lowers local spending requirement for routine maintenance.
- Allows access to prior-year categorical ending balances.

### Plan Includes Major Deferrals

#### **Intra-Year Deferrals:**

- \$2.7 from July/August to October 2009 Inter-Year Deferrals:
- \$4.5 billion from February through June to July



### **LAO March Update**



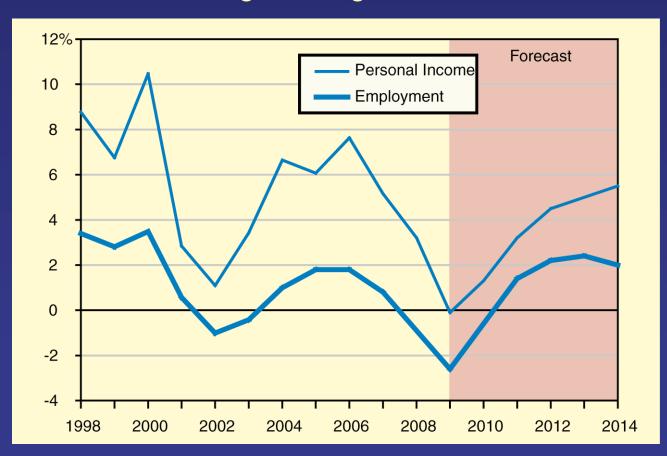
## **Updated Economic, Revenue and Spending Forecast**

- February budget package based on economic assumptions from December.
- Economic picture has continued to worsen.



## Weak Recovery Anticipated for California

#### **Annual Percentage Change**





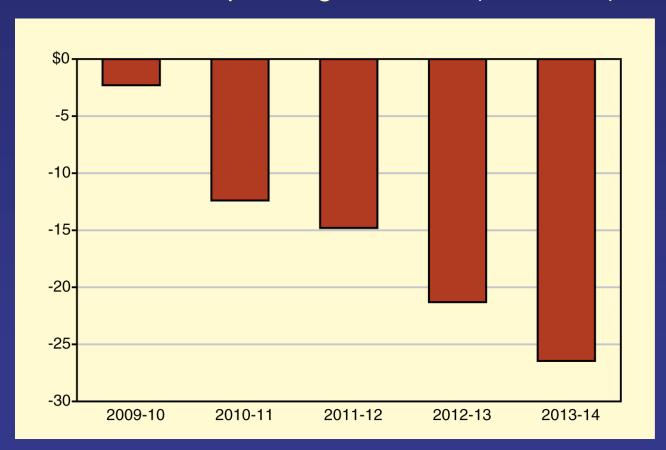
#### **LAO** Revenues

- We forecast a 2009-10 revenue decline of roughly \$8 billion.
- Turns a projected June 30, 2010 surplus of \$2 billion into a deficit of \$6 billion.



#### **The Out-Year Forecast**

General Fund Operating Shortfalls (In Billions)





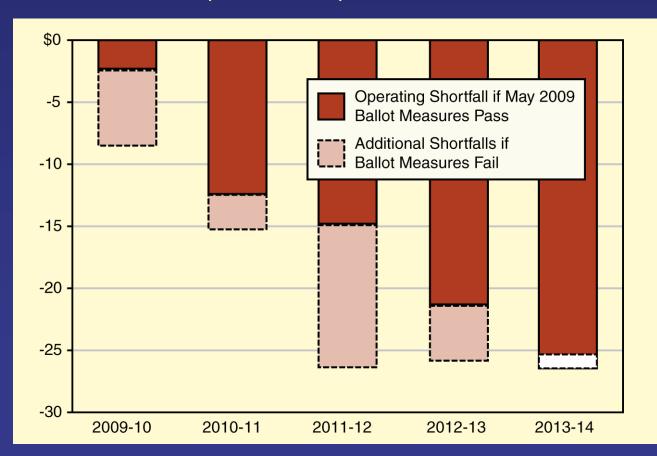
## Forecast Assumes Passage of All Propositions

- Failure of measures would result in lost solutions of:
  - 2009-10: Almost \$6 billion (primarily Proposition 1C)
  - Out-Years: About \$15 billion (primarily Proposition 1A)



### Failure of the Propositions— Impact in the Out-Years

#### General Fund (In Billions)





### Federal Education Stimulus Funding



## **California to Receive More Than**\$8 Billion in Federal Education Funding

#### 2008-2010 (In Millions)

	Federal Funding
Fiscal Stabilization	\$4,875
Special Education	1,321
Title I Basic Grants	1,128
Title I School Improvement Grants	382
Other	401
Total	\$8,081



#### **Federal State Stabilization Funds**

- \$4.9 billion available to K-12 and Higher Education over three-year period.
- Various rules on allocation:
  - Maintenance of effort (2005-06)
  - "Restoration Target" (2007-08)
  - Proportionality between segments



## Federal State Stabilization Funds (Continued)

- Major confusion about these funds.
- They may be needed to cushion further reductions in spending.
- LAO: Legislature should wait to commit these funds, pending final action on budget.



## Federal State Stabilization Funds (Continued)

- Federal funds will be spent on education.
- The monies will provide a higher level of spending than would otherwise be the case.



#### Other Federal Stimulus Funds

- State Incentive Grants
- Title 1
- Special Education



### **Community College Fees**

- Federal government significantly increased its college tax credits.
- LAO: State should raise CCC fees, which would be covered by credits.



### **Epilogue**



#### **Prospects for the Near Term**

- Results of the May 19 Special Election.
  - Propositions 1C, 1D, and 1E
- Revenues coming into the Franchise Tax Board in April.
  - Implications for 2009-10



### Prospects for the Longer Term

- Results of the May 19 Special Election.
  - Propositions 1A and 1B
- Recovery paths of the national and state economies.
- State actions to bring long-term spending and revenue trends into line.

