



## Executive Column

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Governor Brown signed the 2014/15 state budget without much fanfare. Since Proposition 25 passed in November 2010, it is amazing how quickly a state budget can come together. Prop 25 withholds state legislature's pay if they don't pass a balanced budget by June 15.



This year's budget pretty much keeps Human Services Programs at status quo from last year. However, there are some noteworthy changes.

In the In Home Supportive Services program, the budget caps a provider's hours at 66 hours per week in order to hold down program costs. This is a result of new federal regulations, which states that health care providers must get paid overtime. It will be interesting to see how this will impact recipients, providers and social workers.

The budget also includes funding for multidisciplinary teams to help minors who are victims of sex trafficking or Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC). In San Bernardino County, the Children's Network, Behavioral Health, Children and Family Services (CFS), Probation, the Sheriff and District Attorney already participate in a program to help these victims. The additional funding will help CFS to better serve these victims.

Our county budget was passed on June 24. Additional positions were added to the Transitional Assistance Department to support the new Family Stabilization Program and to Behavioral Health in order to provide additional clinic services throughout the county.

I want to personally thank all of the Human Services Department's receiving NACO awards this year. We received 17 of the 31 awards countywide. Yes, that is more than 50% of the awards. Not too shabby.

Until next time...

