



WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON

**children
& families**

Raising Voices to Make Every Kid Count

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Budget repair bill takes balanced approach to restoring solvency

Madison – The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families commended the economic stimulus and budget repair plan unveiled Wednesday by the Governor.

“The Governor’s proposal for paring down the deficit in the current fiscal year strikes a sensible balance between spending cuts and new revenue” said Charity Eleson, executive director of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families. “Because programs like health care and child care for low-income families are even more important during hard economic times, we commend the governor for not balancing the budget with spending cuts alone.”

Eleson specifically endorsed the hospital assessment and ending the so-called “Las Vegas loophole” for large, multi-state corporations. “Before Wisconsin begins slashing spending in critically important state programs, or reducing property tax relief, we need to close tax loopholes and ensure that taxpayers are not evading their fair share of state and local taxes.”

WCCF also endorsed a combination of changes and spending affecting the Wisconsin Shares child care subsidy program. “Governor Doyle is responsibly addressing a deficit in the Wisconsin Shares program so that low-income families who are fortunate enough to have employment can continue to go to work and have their children cared for. We believe the program integrity measures proposed by the Governor are important steps to ensuring that this critical program goes to help eligible families.”

WCCF also supported the expansion of funding for emergency assistance, a program that is often the last resort for families trying to stay in their homes.