BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Gov. Schwarzenegger declared a fiscal emergency in California on Thursday and released a state budget proposal that would close an estimated $14.5 billion shortfall over the next 18 months.

A sample of the governor's proposed cuts:

Cut aid to school districts: $4.8 billion over 18 months

Release 22,159 lower-risk prisoners over two years: $1.1 billion

Close 48 state parks and reduce lifeguard service at selected state beaches: $14.3 million

Delay processing of housing and employment discrimination complaints: $1.8 million

Reduce 38 Fish and Game warden positions: $2.6 million

Reduce drug lab clean-ups: $2.4 million

Reduce rates paid to Medi-Cal providers: $636 million

Reduce funding for AIDS programs: $11 million

Review children's Medi-Cal eligibility quarterly instead of annually: $92.2 million

Eliminate various Medi-Cal benefits, including dental, chiropractic, optical, podiatry and psychology: $144 million

Reduce Child Welfare Services payments to counties: $83.7 million

Eliminate state cost-of-living increases for low-income elderly blind and disabled receiving SSI/SSP: $323.6 million

Reduce hours for "non-medical" services for in-home care workers: $109.4 million