



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**HHS Network urges Congressional Super Committee to find revenue solutions as California Budget Subcommittee discusses effects of program cuts on the Golden State.**

*Essential Health and Human Services in CA Hang in the Balance*

**A statement from Anthony Wright, Executive Director of Health Access California and a member of the HHS Network of California.**

“Today the California State Assembly Budget Subcommittee held a public hearing on the significant impact of the Congressional Super Committee’s budget decisions for California. The Super Committee’s decisions will have profound consequences in California, with their decisions about whether to undermine essential services for our state’s children, families, seniors, and vulnerable residents, or to raise the revenues to sustain these core programs into the future.

Now is the time to place health and human services for families, children, seniors, and disabled people before further tax breaks for corporations and the wealthy. The Budget Control Act of 2011 already cut federal discretionary programs by nearly \$1 trillion over the next decade, without touching the tax breaks enjoyed by millionaires and corporations.

New Census Bureau numbers show that poverty in the United States is skyrocketing, with 22% of American children living in poverty and national poverty at a fifty-year high. The Super Committee should not make program cuts that will push more American families into poverty, or diminish services for those already struggling. Now more than ever we need to prioritize our social safety net, and turn to revenue solutions for our budget problems.

Further cuts to essential services already whittled, slashed, and chopped in recent budget action is a losing proposition. These cuts have long-term impacts, and right now, in the midst of economic hardship, is when California’s families most need crucial public programs. We cannot fix our budget problems with cuts alone; public programs have borne the brunt of recent budget action. It is time for legislators to close tax loopholes, end ineffective tax breaks, and generate new revenue solutions. California’s health, education, and security depend on it.”

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**About the HHS Network of California:**

We are a network of advocates, consumers, and allies working together for strong health care and human services in California. We are statewide, diverse, and grassroots. Our network includes people who care about health care, home care for seniors and disabled people, emergency food and food stamps, domestic violence shelters, independent living centers for people with disabilities, child abuse and neglect prevention, women's health care, community health clinics, AIDS prevention and care, and more — in other words, the basic human needs we all share.

Among the HHS Network's efforts to hold Amazon and others accountable, in 2011 it launched [www.ThinkBeforeYouClickCA.org](http://www.ThinkBeforeYouClickCA.org).

Convening groups for the network include the [Western Center on Law and Poverty](#), [Health Access](#), [California Partnership](#), and [California Immigrant Policy Center](#).