

EdBrief Article:

Governor to Veto Democrat's Budget Package

By Jeff Hudson

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger announced on Thursday afternoon that he will veto the Democratic budget packaged passed by the legislature earlier in the day, saying it lacked the mortgage relief and economic stimulus proposals he'd asked for.

"I will not sign the bills that they will send down to me," Schwarzenegger said late Thursday afternoon. "I was very disappointed. I thought we had negotiated a very balanced kind of a compromise where we agreed to raise revenues and make the necessary cuts and also have a very very strong economic stimulus and recovery package.... along with a bill to help people stay in homes an extra 90 days if they went into foreclosure."

"But this proposal that they have sent down does really only do one thing, and that is punish the people of California," Schwarzenegger said. "It fell short at every single level."

Schwarzenegger added he'd like to see legislators remain in Sacramento. "They should stay here, and work some more on this budget. I'm willing to stay here. I don't think anyone should go and celebrate Christmas and have people out there suffering."

Jeff Hudson is the editor of EdBrief.