

Truth and Justice in Child Support Coalition

Response to California Legislative Version of the 2022-2023 Budget

(Sacramento, CA - June 2, 2022)

Thank you to the California Assembly and Senate for stopping the practice of intercepted child support payments for families currently and formerly receiving public benefit assistance in their Legislative Version of the 2022-23 State Budget. If enacted, this Budget would ensure that 100 percent of child support payments go to who needs them most: low-income children and parents. It supports directing 100 percent of child support payments to families who are currently, or were previously, receiving assistance from CalWorks and Medi-Cal. This policy change will put <u>\$430</u> million back in the pockets of low-income children and parents each year, and would right a historic wrong.

Providing 100% of child support payments to all low-income children will be transformative for families in our state. We thank and applaud the California Assembly and Senate for recognizing the systemic racism in our current policy that disproportionately requires families of color to double pay for government benefits, and saying no more. We ask Governor Newsom to continue to support child support reform and keep this critical, family friendly policy change in the final budget. The Truth and Justice in Child Support Coalition deeply appreciates the Legislature and Governor's efforts so far to take these impactful steps to support low-income children and families.



<u>Truth and Justice in Child Support</u> is a growing statewide coalition of 50+ organizations that seeks to change state policy on child support pass-through, payments and collections to better support low-income children and their families and reduce child poverty in California. For more information, watch our video <u>"Everything You Think You Know About California Child Support is Probably Wrong"</u>. Please contact Rachel Freitas at <u>rachcfreitas@gmail.com</u>, for additional information.

