



## ***California State of the State Address: California on the Mend***

January 18, 2012

Today, Governor Brown delivered his annual State of the State Address to his colleagues in both houses of the Legislature, state constitutional officers, and the judiciary. The Governor's speech, titled "California on the Mend," was underscored largely by the economic downturn and actions taken at the state level to lower the deficit over the past few years.

The Governor noted that despite closing the state deficit last year and transferring functions to local government, there is more work to be done to close the remaining deficit. A keystone of his speech focused on the need to use cuts and temporary taxes to address this remaining deficit and the role that his initiative would play toward this end. His tone was realistic, yet hopeful, as he discussed both the challenges and opportunities that 2012 holds.

Among the priorities the Governor noted for 2012, include, but are not limited to:

- Stimulating jobs
- Building renewable energy
- Reducing pollution and greenhouse gasses
- Launching the nation's only high-speed rail system
- Reaching agreement on a plan to fix the Delta
- Improving our schools
- Reforming our pensions, and,
- Making sure that prison realignment is working—to protect public safety and reduce recidivism. (The Governor took note to mention the "remarkable" work of local public safety stakeholders in prison realignment). *"We are just at the beginning. The cooperation of sheriffs, police chiefs, probation officers, district attorneys and local officials has been remarkable. But we have much to do—to protect public safety and reduce recidivism—and together, we'll get it done."*

He concluded his speech by saying, *"As I see it, that's my job as governor and chief executive: make the operations of government work—efficiently, honestly and in the peoples' interest. With your help, that's what we'll do in 2012 and prove the declinists wrong once again."*

Link to the Governor's [transcript](#).

Link to Assembly and Senate Republican Leader [response](#).

Link to Comments by Assembly Speaker [Perez](#).

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