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State of the State: Westly Says Match Optimism with Action

Westly: "The Governor gave a good pitch. Now we need a screenplay that delivers."

**The following is a statement of California State Controller
Steve Westly on Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's State of the State Address**

"The Governor's optimism becomes reality only if we make tough budget choices. Some good economic news eases the budget crisis. My office today released a fiscal report that shows a stronger economy is producing higher revenues for the state. The mid-term fiscal year report shows revenues are exceeding forecasts by at least \$1.2 billion.

"A stronger economy gives the Governor an assist but won't do the heavy lifting. Improved revenues and passage of the debt bond gives us a first down but there's still 80 yards to the goal. California is rooting for us to win the game by cutting waste and making tough budget choices.

"To help solve the budget crisis, I will continue to find ways to aggressively cut waste. I was among the first to call on the Governor to restructure state agencies and better use technology for government reform and I'm pleased this was part of his address.

"I am proud to join the Governor as the lead Democrat in support of the debt bond. The budget crisis isn't a Democratic or Republican problem. But the solution only comes from both parties working together. Democratic legislators gave their full support to the debt bond and I'll work closely with members of both parties to get our fiscal house in order."

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