

# CONTROLLER JOHN CHIANG

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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## Chiang Responds to Motion by Prison Receiver

**SACRAMENTO** – State Controller John Chiang today issued the following statement in response to the motion filed in federal court by Clark Kelso, the California Prison Receiver:

“I understand Mr. Kelso is taking the steps he believes are necessary to fulfill his court-appointed duties, and I support his efforts to bring the State’s prison health care system up to Constitutional standards.

“However, my office cannot expend funds from the Treasury unless there is a legislatively-approved appropriation or a court order compelling payment. At this time, there is neither.

“One way or another, the State will have to pay for its prison healthcare system. I continue to believe the Legislature should approve lease revenue bonds as the fiscally appropriate way to fund prison bed construction and avoid interfering with my ability to responsibly manage the State’s cash flow and provide the services our State expects and deserves.

“I will continue to work with Mr. Kelso, who has assured me that there will be no immediate effect on the State’s cash flow. Once again, I call on the Legislature and Governor to take the necessary actions to pass a sound, workable budget and provide the Prison Receiver with the necessary resources to complete his charge.”

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