

Brown's final budget stashes billions in reserve

By Adam Ashton, Sacramento Bee

In his 16th and final year as governor, Jerry Brown is using a surplus to stash away billions of dollars in reserves that would help his successor weather a recession while boosting some of his signature programs.

He's proposed a \$190.3 billion spending plan on Wednesday that accelerates funding for his 2013 education law and uses new gas tax revenue to fund \$4.6 billion in new transportation projects.

The centerpiece of his plan, though, is a \$5 billion jolt to the state's so-called rainy day fund, which he championed with a 2014 ballot initiative to steady California's boom and bust finances.

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