

Shortage in Olympia?



Not in money.

You've probably heard about the catastrophic \$2.6 billion deficit facing Olympia.

What you probably haven't heard is that it doesn't exist.

State revenue is forecasted to increase by six percent in the next budget cycle, despite our recession and high unemployment rate. But some legislators were hoping to increase spending by double digits, so they're calling it a "shortage."

The *real* income shortages are in taxpaying households and businesses across this state, where a six-percent increase would sound pretty good right now. Sadly, some lawmakers would cut family and business income even more by imposing new tax increases.

Legislators need to do two things before they go home this year:

- Balance the state budget within forecasted revenues. No new taxes for businesses or families!
- Implement comprehensive and independent performance audits so taxpayers can be certain their hard-earned dollars are being spent wisely.

The Senate and Governor Locke submitted budgets with no new taxes. Call your House representatives and tell them to do the same. Ask them to implement independent, comprehensive performance audits. They work for you, after all.

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