



Dear Friends,

Budget shortfalls threaten a host of programs on which Tennesseans rely.

As a Tennessee State Senator, I am enlisting your help.

Together, we can find common ground on which to solve our persistent funding problems. In that spirit, I ask you to consider and return the following survey AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. All personal information will be kept confidential.

It's time we hear from all Tennesseans on the single issue that affects everyone.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Clabough
8th Senatorial District



It's Tennessee's money.

How should we manage it?

1 A. Governor Sundquist's Budget Proposal

Increase of \$691 million for the current budget

\$179 million Increase in K-12 Education

- \$179 million increase in K-12 public schools
- Knox County will receive \$115 million total state dollars. Blount County \$40 million. Sevier County \$28 million.

\$136 million Increase in Higher Education

- Stops tuition hikes at the University of Tennessee, Pellissippi State and Walters State Community College
- Continues programs such as Agriculture Extension and Adult Education
- Raises salaries to stop faculty erosion

\$114 million Increase to TennCare

- Covers 1.43 million people who otherwise would be served by Medicaid and those who are uninsured or uninsurable
- Assists local governments in paying for indigent health care

\$163 million Increase in State Government

- Funds State Parks
- Improves public health and increases funding for public safety including the Highway Patrol
- Develops areas such as Homeland Security

B. D.O.G.'s Budget Proposal

Cuts \$775 million from the current budget

\$397 million Cut from K-12 Education

- Adds 5 students to every public school classroom
- Lays-off 14% of the state's 66,000 teachers
- Affects sports, arts, music and special education

\$71 million Cut from Higher Education

- Increases tuition by 15% at the University of Tennessee, Pellissippi State and Walters State Community College to compensate for loss in funding
- UT Board of Trustees and Board of Regents must cover \$71 million in loss of funding

Abolish TennCare

- Saves \$50 million but leaves 350,000 uninsured and uninsurable people to rely on local governments for health care

\$110 million Cut from State Government

- Abolishes Dept. of Tourism
- Abolishes Dept. of Economic and Community Development
- Cuts \$28 million in Law Enforcement, Highway Patrol, Prisons and Veterans Programs
- Cuts \$12 million in State Parks and Soil Conservation
- Cuts \$12 million from Transportation, including Welcome Centers and Rest Areas

2 A. 4.5 % Flat Income Tax Proposal

This plan would produce approximately \$1.1 billion

- Exemptions on the first \$15,000 for single, the first \$30,000 for married filing jointly and \$1,500 deduction per dependent
- Repeal all current income taxes on savings, bonds and investments
- Remove sales tax on grocery food, clothing and non-prescription drugs
- Constitutional Amendment limits state spending to 6% annual growth

B. 9.75% Sales Tax Proposal

This plan would produce approximately \$1.1 billion

- State sales tax would be increased to 9.75%
- Current maximum rate is 8.75%

RETURN THIS SURVEY

Which budget proposal do you prefer?

- A. Governor Sundquist's Budget Proposal
- B. D.O.G.'s Budget Proposal

If you chose A, please answer the next question

Which revenue proposal do you prefer?

- A. 4.5% Flat Income Tax Proposal
- B. 9.75% Sales Tax Rate Proposal
- C. Cut all new and some existing services. Do not create new taxes.

Name _____

Address _____

City / Zip _____

Comments _____

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Act Now!