



# AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist  
President

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Wisconsin Assembly Republican Caucus  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53708

Dear State Representative,

I write to thank you for standing up for Wisconsin taxpayers and passing a pro-growth budget “repair” plan that is free of tax increases. As budget discussions heat up, I urge you to continue standing up for taxpayers, and support the efforts of assembly leadership as they battle to defeat with the tax-and-spend plans put forth by the governor and senate democrats.

Your budget plan stands in stark contrast to that put forth by the Democrat-controlled state senate. While the senate plan calls for corporate “loophole closures” and a renewed push to place a tax on hospitals to repair a so-called budget “shortfall” of approximately \$652 million, the assembly plan addresses the true problem: state government is spending too much.

While any tax increases remove money from the private economy and productive use, the tax hike proposals that Gov. Doyle and senate leaders are bringing to the table are especially onerous because they threaten to punish hospitalized Wisconsinites while at the same time pushing businesses and jobs out of the state.

The aptly-dubbed “sick tax” is nothing more than a tax hike in disguise. While proponents of the .7 percent “surcharge” claim that this tax will bring in additional federal dollars, they are ignoring the fact that patients will bear the burden of a higher hospital bill at the end of the day. Do not be fooled by the rhetoric surrounding this proposal: *it is a tax increase* that targets any Wisconsinite who is already down and out.

Another portion of the senate’s budget patch includes a \$130 million tax increase on corporations. At a time in which every state faces an uncertain economic future, any such move that will serve as a disincentive for businesses to dwell and create jobs in the state is dangerous. Instead, the legislature should seek to enact tax cuts that will draw people and businesses into the state.

Going forward, I urge you to maintain the mantra stressed by Speaker Huebsch: “We should not use a budget shortfall as an excuse to raise taxes...we’re spending too much.” **On behalf of taxpayers in Wisconsin, I want to thank you for promoting fiscal restraint and pro-growth policies in the Badger State by opposing all tax increases and urge you to remain stalwart in this effort.**

Onward,

Grover Norquist