

The Walker Weekly



Walker to Democrats: This is How it is Done

During his State of the County Address last week, Scott highlighted Milwaukee County's successes and unveiled his *Blueprint for Economic Prosperity* - a vision to help Wisconsin out of its economic slump. Highlights of the State of the County Address include:

-Scott called on Governor Doyle, the Wisconsin State Legislature, and the Milwaukee County Board to support his proposals to use federal stimulus money on property and employer tax cuts, as well as on a suspension of the sales tax from March 1 through December 31, 2009. "History shows that tax cuts lead to prosperity," Scott said.

-Under his leadership, Scott has cut spending, cut the county debt by 10%, and decreased the workforce by 24%. In stark contrast, Doyle has increased taxes, increased spending, and increased the number of state employees (5,000 new hires in 2008 alone). While Milwaukee County's bond rating is up, Jim Doyle's failed leadership has caused the State of Wisconsin's bond rating to decrease.

Democrats to Walker: Can't Talk Now, Too Busy Raising Taxes

Democrat Governor Jim Doyle and the Democrat-controlled Legislature have been very busy. During the past two weeks, the Democrats have either passed or proposed over \$2 billion in tax increases, including higher taxes on hospitals, income, employers, computer software, and even iPod downloads.

First, Doyle and his fellow Democrats introduced a \$1.2 billion tax increase on employers, hospitals, and computer programs. They passed it into law less than eight days later without allowing any analysis or comment - just as the Democrats did in Washington, DC. Then, Doyle unveiled his state budget proposal, which is yet another attack on employers, taxpayers, and investors. However, unlike the pork-filled federal bailout that became law before anyone had a chance to read the fine print, the state budget will be carefully reviewed over the next several months. Here is some early feedback, none of it good:

"I thought it was heavy on tax increases, and light on spending cuts."

State Representative Bob Ziegelbauer (D-Manitowoc)

"I heard the Governor say that Wisconsinites 'don't curl up and hide beneath the covers.' But I think taxpayers better do that. The Governor hammered them tonight again."

State Senate Minority Leader Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau)

"Libertarians fear that the Governor and legislators are ready to deliver a one-two punch to Wisconsin businesses."

Libertarian Party of Wisconsin press release, February 17, 2009

"No one is safe from tax increases in Governor Doyle's budget."
State Representative Robin Vos (R-Caledonia)

"Yesterday afternoon, I met with three area employers who are in the process of determining whether their businesses and the 900-plus people that they currently employ will continue to operate in Wisconsin. Unfortunately, the Governor's budget plan sends just the opposite message and I am very concerned that the job-killing policies will do just that, kill private sector jobs - perhaps even the jobs we were working to save earlier yesterday."
State Senator Joe Leibham (R-Sheboygan)

"With friends of the middle class like this, who needs enemies?"
Green Bay Press Gazette Editorial, February 20, 2009

Some Good News from Washington, DC (For a Change)



Last month, the Republican National Committee took a major step forward by electing Michael Steele as its Chairman.

Wisconsin GOP Chairman Reince Priebus managed Steele's victorious campaign, and he now heads the National Chairman's transition team. "Michael Steele will be a great new voice and

outstanding leader for the Republican Party," Priebus said. "As we work diligently to take our message to the people throughout Wisconsin and America, I look forward to continuing my partnership with him and at the RNC."