



It's time to end the revenue shortfalls and Invest in Minnesota

Invest in Minnesota is united about investing in Minnesota's future.

The Invest in Minnesota Campaign unites Minnesota's faith communities, labor and nonprofit organizations around the following core principles:

- 1. Revenue-raising must be a significant part of the solution to resolving the state's budget deficit.**
- 2. The overall package of revenue-raising must make the tax system more fair.**
 - An increase to the state's income tax based on the ability to pay must be a major component of a revenue-raising package.
 - Targeted tax credits for low- and moderate-income Minnesotans are an important tool in creating a fair tax system, and should be maintained and expanded.

Minnesota should take a balanced approach to the state's budget shortfalls:

- Minnesota is a great state and we want to keep it that way. Confronted with budget deficits starting in 2002, the legislature has enacted cuts causing Minnesota to lose ground compared to other states.
- Minnesota must take a balanced approach to solving the state's \$1.2 billion budget deficit in 2010. Given the magnitude of the problem, no options should be taken off the table. Balancing solely through spending cuts takes dollars out Minnesota's economy.
- Minnesota's tax system asks low- and middle-income Minnesotans to pay more than their fair share. The Department of Revenue reports that those making more than \$448,000 annually pay 8.9% of their incomes in state and local taxes while those making between \$31,000 and \$67,000 pay over 12%.
- The majority of surveyed Minnesotans support a balanced approach to addressing budget shortfalls that includes raising taxes in order to avoid painful cuts to services for the elderly and people with disabilities, education, health care or job training.
- History shows that when we invest in Minnesota, we can build a stronger state. There has not been a correlation between higher taxes and poor economic performance. Minnesota's economy outperformed the nation through the 1980s and 1990s, when our taxes were higher.