

Why Vote NO on the Income Tax Proposal?

The income tax question on the ballot this fall is a **reckless proposal** that will have **severe and immediate consequences** for all of us. This binding referendum will take **\$12.7 billion — nearly 40 percent — out of the state budget, driving up local property taxes** and leading to **drastic cuts in services**. Our communities will suffer sweeping education cuts, steep reductions in public safety personnel and further deterioration of roads and bridges. Times are hard enough. Let's not make them worse.

Here's why you should vote NO:

- “This is a reckless proposal that will have severe and immediate consequences for our communities.”
- “The proposal will cost the Commonwealth \$12.7 billion in revenues, or 40 percent of the state budget.
- “This proposal is binding and would become law, effective January 1, 2009.”
- “It will increase the pressure on cities and towns to raise local property taxes.”
- “It's reckless to put our public safety at risk by reducing the number of paramedics, police officers and firefighters. This will lead to longer 911 wait times and fewer officers on the beat.”
- “It will lead to unprecedented and unsustainable cuts in education. Our schools receive a substantial share of their funding from the state government. Class sizes will increase, after-school programs will be cut and schools will close.”
- “Communities will have less money for infrastructure improvements. Our aging roads and bridges will continue deteriorating, posing a threat to public safety. This means more broken roads and potholes and more repair bills for drivers. It also increases the risk of a commuter rail derailment or a bridge collapse.”
- “It will limit access to health care services for seniors, working families and people with disabilities, increasing lines and waits in emergency rooms.”
- “It's reckless to put our fragile economy and job market at even greater risk. Businesses won't invest in a state that refuses to invest in itself.”

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