

State Representative Mary Mushinsky
Legislative Office Building, Room 4038
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

PLACE
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HERE

PLEASE RETURN THIS SURVEY. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

MARY MUSHINSKY
State Representative
Proudly Serving Wallingford
85th House District



2011 Constituent Survey

Dear Neighbor,

As every resident knows, we are in the midst of a tough recession initiated by the financial sector collapse of 2008. Connecticut is facing over a 3.2 billion dollar deficit (approximately 20% of the budget), and in order for Connecticut to rebound economically we will need to maintain essential services, cut spending and replace lost state revenues. Connecticut has already tapped backup funds such as the Rainy Day Fund, and Federal stimulus funds will not be available this year.

Governor Malloy has proposed cutting costs to maintain current levels, while protecting local services to towns and cities and providing the same level of funding for education. The Governor also proposed consolidating and reorganizing state government to save on spending, while also increasing state revenue by an additional \$1.5 billion. As Governor Malloy stressed in his budget speech Feb. 16th, "Balancing the budget will require shared sacrifice. This budget includes cuts in spending, concessions from state employees and tax increases. Overall, there are more spending cuts than tax increases."

We must now review and revise his proposals. Please fill out this survey, attach any comments you would like and send it back to me. Unfortunately, the law does not allow for the surveys to be sent postage free. However, you may save a stamp by filling out the survey online at www.housedems.ct.gov/Mushinsky.

Thank you for the honor of serving you.



MARY MUSHINSKY

State Representative

Proudly Serving Wallingford
85th Assembly District

Your Opinion Counts!

Survey 2011

Legislative Office Building

Room 4038

Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol: 800.842.8267

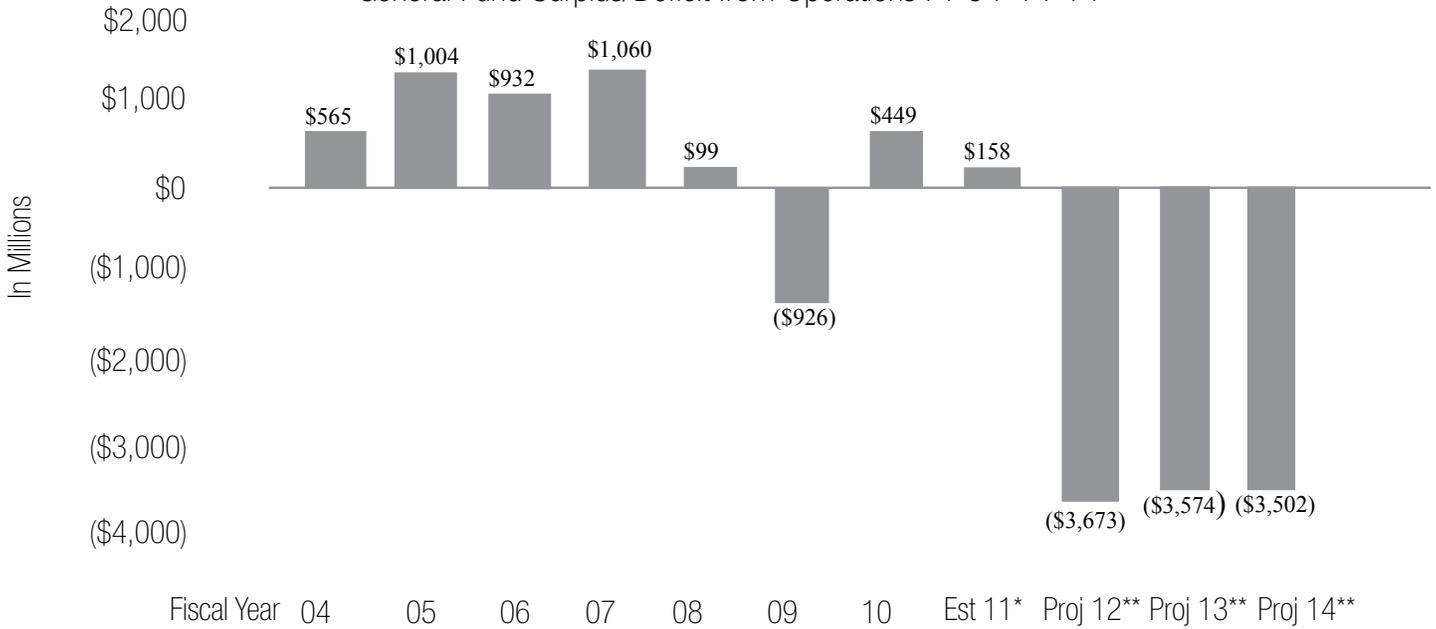
Email: Mary.Mushinsky@cga.ct.gov

www.housedems.ct.gov/Mushinsky

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General Fund Surplus/Deficit from Operations FY 04- FY 14



* OFA 'State General Fund Budget Projections' Report, March 25, 2011.

** OFA 'Fiscal Accountability Report to the Appropriations and Finance Committees', November 15, 2010.

Balancing the budget: Cut state spending

When it comes to cutting state budget expenditures, please choose from 'Cut' or 'Don't Cut' from the categories below:

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Aid to Businesses | Prescription Drugs for Seniors | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Aid to Families with Children | Prescription Drugs for Families | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Aid to the Disabled | Protecting our Environment | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Aid for Senior Care and Nursing Homes | Corrections and Jails | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Aid to Municipalities to control property taxes | Affordable Housing/Rental Assistance | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Social Services, ex. Energy Assistance | Rental Assistance for Seniors | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Crime Victim Services | Roads, Bridges and Highways | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Wallingford's Public Schools | Funding for Public Transit | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Drug Abuse Prevention Education | Community and Public College Education; | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Drug Abuse Rehabilitation | ex. SCSU, Gateway | |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Health Care Assistance for Seniors | The State Police | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Capital Investments: ex. Clean Water Projects | Veterans' Services | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |
| Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ Open Space Land Purchases | State Employee Benefits | Cut ___ Don't Cut ___ |

Balancing the budget: Raising state revenue

The Governor has proposed several ideas to either raise revenue or cut spending. While looking at those ideas listed below, please chose from either 'Yes' or 'No':

- | | |
|---|---|
| Yes ___ No ___ Increase the sales tax rate from 6.00% to 6.25% | Yes ___ No ___ Add a refundable tax credit for the working poor |
| Yes ___ No ___ Apply sales tax to items bought on the Internet | Yes ___ No ___ Consolidate and reorganize state agencies |
| Yes ___ No ___ Increase taxes on businesses and corporations | Yes ___ No ___ Apply sales tax to now exempt items, such as haircuts, clothing under \$50, etc. |
| Yes ___ No ___ Allow the sale of alcohol on Sundays | Yes ___ No ___ Increase the tax on cigarettes and alcohol |
| Yes ___ No ___ Increase the tax on gas | Yes ___ No ___ Add a luxury sales surtax, for example on clothing over \$1,000 and jewelry over \$5,000 |
| Yes ___ No ___ Put tolls on Connecticut highways at the borders | Yes ___ No ___ Seek concessions from state employees |
| Yes ___ No ___ Increase the income tax on those earning \$50,000 or above (see table below) | |
| Yes ___ No ___ Eliminate the property tax credit of up to \$500 | |

Please choose one of the following options in regard to how you would prefer to balance the budget.

- ___ I prefer fewer spending cuts and a greater reliance on tax increases
- ___ I prefer an even amount of spending cuts and tax increases
- ___ I prefer significant spending cuts and no new or higher taxes

GOVERNOR MALLOY'S PERSONAL INCOME TAX PROPOSAL Sample Income Tax Payments By Selected Income Levels	Single Filer				Joint Filer			
	CT Adjusted Gross Income	2010 Income Year Tax Due	Proposed 2011 Tax Due	Proposed Change Relative to 2010	CT Adjusted Gross Income	2010 Income Year Tax Due	Proposed 2011 Tax Due	Proposed Change Relative to 2010
\$ 10,000*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$ 20,000*	\$ -	\$ 137	\$ 137	\$ 137	\$ 20,000*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$ 30,000*	\$ 265	\$ 765	\$ 500	\$ 265	\$ 30,000*	\$ -	\$ 45	\$ 45
\$ 40,000*	\$ 1,120	\$ 1,620	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 40,000*	\$ -	\$ 312	\$ 312
\$ 50,000	\$ 1,570	\$ 2,070	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 50,000	\$ 350	\$ 850	\$ 500
\$ 60,000	\$ 2,350	\$ 2,870	\$ 520	\$ 520	\$ 60,000	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,800	\$ 500
\$ 70,000	\$ 2,900	\$ 3,440	\$ 540	\$ 540	\$ 70,000	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,700	\$ 500
\$ 80,000	\$ 3,450	\$ 4,010	\$ 560	\$ 560	\$ 80,000	\$ 2,740	\$ 3,240	\$ 500
\$ 90,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,580	\$ 580	\$ 580	\$ 90,000	\$ 3,190	\$ 3,690	\$ 500
\$ 100,000	\$ 4,550	\$ 5,150	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 100,000	\$ 4,008	\$ 4,508	\$ 500
\$ 125,000	\$ 5,900	\$ 6,628	\$ 728	\$ 728	\$ 125,000	\$ 5,500	\$ 6,095	\$ 595
\$ 150,000	\$ 7,300	\$ 8,125	\$ 825	\$ 825	\$ 150,000	\$ 6,850	\$ 7,550	\$ 700
\$ 200,000	\$ 9,800	\$ 11,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 200,000	\$ 9,600	\$ 10,500	\$ 900
\$ 250,000	\$ 12,300	\$ 14,000	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,700	\$ 250,000	\$ 12,100	\$ 13,375	\$ 1,275
\$ 500,000	\$ 24,800	\$ 29,750	\$ 4,950	\$ 4,950	\$ 500,000	\$ 24,600	\$ 28,000	\$ 3,400
\$ 1,000,000	\$ 57,300	\$ 63,250	\$ 5,950	\$ 5,950	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 49,600	\$ 59,500	\$ 9,900
\$ 2,000,000	\$ 122,300	\$ 130,250	\$ 7,950	\$ 7,950	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 114,600	\$ 126,500	\$ 11,900

Source: Office of Policy and Management: http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/budget/2012_2013_biennial_budget/section_0_introduction.pdf