



Greetings!

The law requires the Governor to release a budget proposal in December before the legislative session. However, the law doesn't require his budget proposal to make sense.

Gov. Inslee rolled out his budget proposal on Wednesday, revealing his true budget priority – raising your taxes. You can read more about it below and what that means for the upcoming session.

Enjoy the holidays and if you have any questions about the budget, please send me an [email](#) or give me a call at (509) 329-3740.

Governor's Budget Proposal 2017: The Largest Tax Increase in Washington State History

Here are the facts:

- Gov. Inslee proposes to raise taxes by \$4.4 billion for the first two years. Stretches to over **\$8 billion** in the next two years.
- His budget increases state spending by **21%**.
- Over four years, the proposal grows to a **40%** increase in spending.
- His plan would increase the business tax on employers by **67%**.
- His plan creates a new **carbon tax** which voters just got done voting against.
- His plan depends on an **income tax on capital gains**, a tax that even states like California are moving away from because it is so unpredictable.
- He even restores the **tax on bottled water** that was rejected by voters years ago.
- Worse still he leaves the state on the hook for even more education costs in the future

without any reforms to give kids better educational opportunities.



The Governor brings these major tax increases forward while handing out unprecedented raises for some of his biggest campaign donors and still offering no plans to reform bloated government agencies. This was after running as someone who would fund schools by reducing waste.

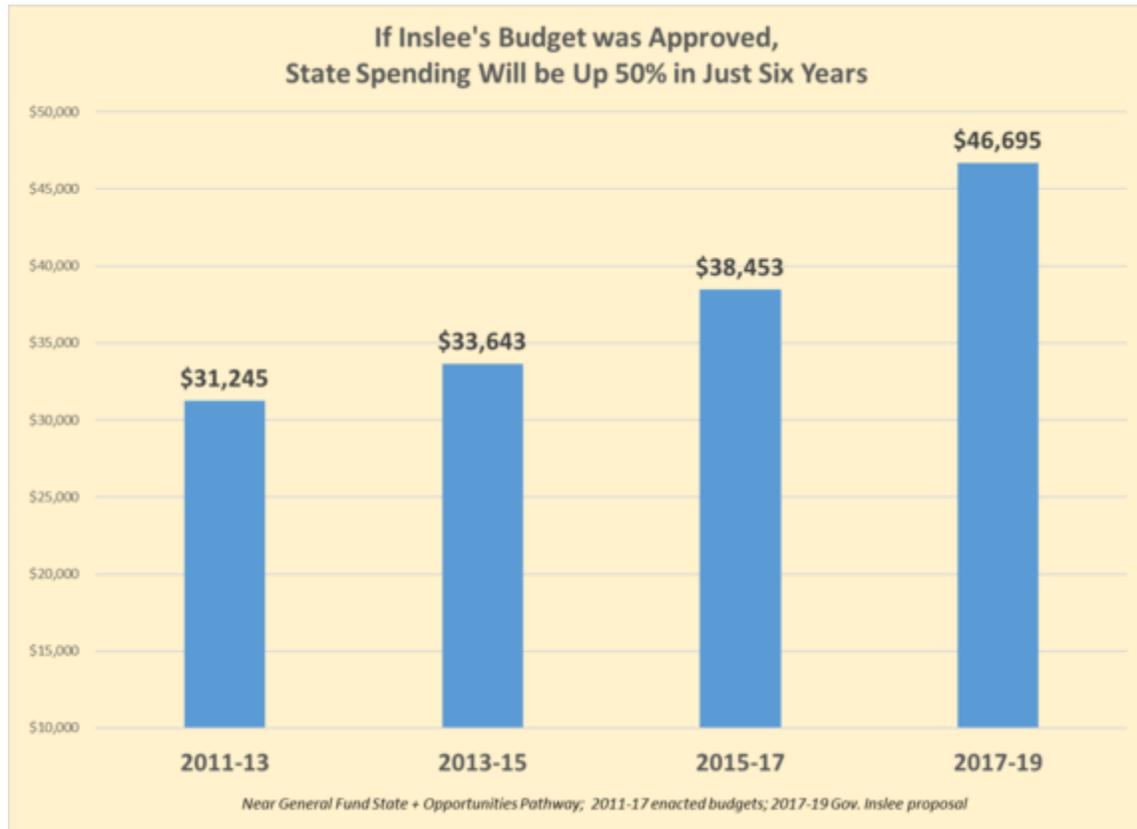
This just shows the Governor's true priorities: increasing taxes to give his friends a pay increase.

The reality is that this budget proposal is dead-on-arrival. The Governor is required by law to propose a budget, but the law doesn't require that his proposal has to balance, which is good for him because his budget doesn't. However, the Legislature is required by law to pass a budget that balances over four years, something we have done successfully for the past four years with bipartisan support. This is responsible budgeting.

When the legislative session starts on January 9th, we'll get started on the real state budget where we'll stick to smart budget principles that balance over the long-term without new taxes. We'll focus on reforming state government, not just pumping billions of dollars into broken bureaucracies, and we'll make the tough choices the Governor refused to make.

One thing I can assure you is that as long as I am in the majority, these kind of major job-killing tax

increases are DOA.



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