
9 Ways in 9 Days Way 7 Day



9 ways to raise revenue and prevent more budget cuts

Potential Revenue: The Legislature could raise \$91 million by repealing a coal surtax exemption and imposing a new tax on diesel fuel.¹

Potential Consequences: The revenue from these two changes would raise more than enough revenue to cover all of the cuts proposed to the departments that fall under Health, Hospitals and Human Services (\$84.5 million),² as well as the cuts proposed to the courts and judicial systems (\$4.7 million).³ Departments under Health, Hospitals and Human Services that are slated for cuts offer services such as unemployment benefits distribution, veteran services, childcare assistance, and domestic violence prevention.

Ask any New Mexico family struggling to make ends meet—the impact of the national recession has hit our state very hard. Yet, many of the proposals being floated to address the state’s falling revenues will reduce opportunity, increase economic insecurity, and stall recovery.

Legislators can make a better choice: instead of relying on deeper, more damaging cuts for programs like education and health care as the only option, they can choose a balanced approach—one that doesn’t lay all the sacrifice on working families and that offers a sensible, long-term solution.

We urge them to make the *Better Choice for New Mexico*.

Tell our Legislature: Don’t jeopardize future prosperity, stall economic recovery, throw more people out of work, and pack more students into already overcrowded classrooms—just to protect big tax breaks for the rich and powerful. There’s a better choice for New Mexico’s families—a balanced approach for opportunity and security.

Visit *Better Choices New Mexico* on <http://betterchoicesnewmexico.com> for more information about the group and specific revenue generators.

1 Governor Richardson’s Budget Balancing Task Force, Final Report, December 21, 2009 <http://nmrevenueoptions.com/FinalReport.pdf>

2 General Fund Revenue Update and Outlook for 2010 Legislative Session, Legislative Finance Committee, January 10, 2010

3 Ibid

- ABRAZOS FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES
- AMERICA VOTES EDUCATION AND ACTION FUND
- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES
- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS NEW MEXICO
- CENTER FOR CIVIC POLICY
- COMMUNITY ACTION NM
- COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA
- FAMILIES AND YOUTH, INC.
- FARM TO TABLE
- HANDS ACROSS CULTURES
- HEALTH ACTION NEW MEXICO
- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS
- LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NM
- LUTHERAN ADVOCACY MINISTRY
- NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS NM
- NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION NEW MEXICO
- NM ADULT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
- NM CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
- NM COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS
- NM CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES
- NM EARLY CHILDHOOD ALLIANCE
- NM PROGRESSIVE ACTION
- NM SCHOOL NURSES ASSOCIATION
- NEW MEXICO SOLUTIONS
- NM VOICES FOR CHILDREN
- NM YOUTH PROVIDERS ALLIANCE
- RESULTS – SANTA FE
- SANTA FE ALLIANCE
- SOUTHWEST ORGANIZING PROJECT