

We know what works

- Prosperous communities depend on **investments in people**. A healthy, educated, working population builds a prosperous Wisconsin.
- Good **public schools**: K-12, universities, and tech colleges all build our future.
- Adequately funded **public infrastructure** is the foundation of our economy.
- **Public services**, provided by **PUBLIC EMPLOYEES** are one of best safeguards against waste and corruption.
- **Taxes are the DUES WE PAY for a civil society** that believes in shared values.

REAL budget solutions are possible

- **Cut tax breaks and loopholes**. 60% of businesses pay NO income tax. Many wealthy individuals pay a smaller percentage of tax than lower income working people.
- **Stop tax cheating**. WI loses \$1.6 billion a year in lost revenue to fraud and cheating.
- **Collect fair taxes from everyone**. Governor Walker's tax cuts have not stimulated Wisconsin's economy. They have CREATED much pain, including the current deficits.
- **Accept \$315 million from federal government** to reduce pressure on Badger Care and help WI's poor with proper medical care.

What Can I Do?

Contact your legislators

- Call, email, or write your elected officials. It is quick and easy. You don't have to be a good writer or speaker, and most legislators do pay attention to your views.
- **Tell them PUT PEOPLE FIRST; just say "no" to harmful budget cuts**

Inform Yourself: Learn more about budgets and taxes

- Institute for Wisconsin's Future, <http://wisconsinsfuture.org/publications/pubs-tax>
- Wisconsin Taxpayers Alliance <http://wistax.org>
- Center on Wisconsin Strategy, <http://www.cows.org/wisconsin>
- Protect Our Wisconsin Retirement Security, http://wisconsinara.org/issues/POWRS/POWRS_Publication_List
- FaceBook: Put **POWRS** in the search box; "like" us to get relevant postings

Talk to your friends, relatives, and co-workers

- Talking "politics" is not impolite if you are respectful of others.
- "Politics" is the way we make important decisions that affect us all.
- Build a better world the "old fashioned way", one person at a time.

Get Organized

- Join and contribute to progressive citizen and community groups.
- Participate in your union.
- **VOTE** and support candidates that support **PEOPLE**.

This publication was developed by Protect Our Wisconsin Retirement Security (POWRS). POWRS is a statewide working group of activist retirees who work in close cooperation with the Wisconsin Alliance of Retired Americans (WIARA). To contact POWRS or find other publications: go to:

www.wisconsinara.org/issues/Wisconsin_Retirement_System