

Argument Against Proposition 100

Arizona taxpayers need to work hard to defeat Proposition 100. This is a terrible time to raise taxes on Arizona's struggling families and businesses.

Unfortunately, the governor and many legislators are still not serious about dealing with Arizona's fiscal problems.

One sign that our politicians are not serious is that they have thus far failed to move forward on giving the state a strong spending limit. This entire deficit crisis was caused by reckless overspending by government during the middle years of this decade. During the real estate bubble, tax revenues came pouring in, and the legislators (with lots of pushing from Gov. Napolitano) spent far more than was sustainable. When the bubble popped, the revenues went away, and we now have to make tough choices: we need to lay off excess state workers and get rid of unnecessary programs.

But instead of letting us vote on a spending limit, the politicians are trying to get us to raise taxes and give them more money!

If Arizona resorts to a tax increase, we will tell potential investors, businesses, workers, and retirees that Arizona is the next California: we are stuck in a cycle in which the government spends too much money in boom years, goes into deficit crises, raises taxes to keep government spending at high levels, and then repeats the process until it hits bankruptcy.

If taxpayers rise up and defeat Proposition 100, we will force the state government to achieve efficiencies in government.

For ideas on balancing the budget without raising taxes, contact the Arizona chapter of Americans for Prosperity, at www.aztaxpayers.org, (602) 478-0146, or tomjenney@cox.net.

--Tom Jenney, Arizona Director, Americans for Prosperity

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