

THE DEMOCRATIC DIFFERENCE: FISCAL MANAGEMENT

Democrats across Wisconsin are on your side in support of our most cherished values: **Freedom, Family, and Fairness**. Despite continuing opposition from Republican legislators, Wisconsin's Democrats are fighting successfully to protect our rights, our opportunities, and our way of life.

When it comes to Fiscal Management, who is on your side?

THE REPUBLICAN RECORD

Republicans have a miserable record of managing the state's and the federal government's finances, leaving middle class and working families to pay the bill.

- After 16 years of GOP control of the Governor's Office in Wisconsin, the state was left *\$3.2 billion in the hole*.
- Congressman Mark Green and Republicans in Congress have turned the largest surplus in American history into the largest deficit in American history – a deficit that is projected to hit *\$423 billion* in 2006.
- Mark Green voted for four consecutive Bush budgets that *increased federal spending by 33 percent*. Throughout his eight years in Congress, Green has helped Bush and Republicans increase federal spending by *45 percent*.
- Between 2001 and 2005, Bush and Republicans borrowed \$1.05 trillion – *more than all of the previous presidencies combined*.
- As a member of the Legislature, Mark Green joined Republicans in voting for a *38 percent hike in state spending*.
- Mark Green has repeatedly voted to increase the national debt limit, including voting in 2004 to raise the limit by \$800 billion to \$8.18 trillion. Republicans in Congress recently raised the limit *even higher this year to \$9 trillion*.
- Under the watch of Mark Green and Republicans in Washington, the federal government's borrowing limit has climbed *by \$3 trillion* since President Bush took office.
- Mark Green and Republicans in Congress cut nearly \$40 billion from critical health, education, and other services for American families in order to pay for \$55 billion in tax breaks for the wealthy – and tried to call it deficit reduction.
- Legislative Republicans continue to push a TABOR proposal that would spell disaster for Wisconsin by drastically cutting public schools, health care, public safety, and economic development.

The fiscal mismanagement of Republicans threatens our ability to fund our most important priorities. Republicans are taking your money and giving it to their friends – and it's only going to get worse if we don't take our checkbook back.

THE DEMOCRATIC DIFFERENCE

Democrats across Wisconsin support smart use of our tax dollars. Unlike the Republicans, Democrats are not leaving our children to pay the bills or drastically shortchanging our priorities.

- Governor Jim Doyle and legislative Democrats closed the Republicans' \$3.2 billion budget deficit without raising taxes, while protecting education and health care.
- Governor Doyle has reduced the size of the state's overhead by more than \$600 million, selling 1,000 state cars, 1,500 cell phones, and seven state airplanes.
- Democrats in Congress have fought against the reckless course Republicans have steered our nation on – opposing special interest giveaways.
- Governor Doyle signed into law a responsible property tax freeze that provides significant relief to property taxpayers, while still investing in education.
- Over the past three years, Governor Doyle has signed into law over \$600 million in tax cuts for Wisconsin families.
- Governor Doyle and legislative Democrats are making Wisconsin stronger by investing in our schools, attracting new businesses, helping our homegrown companies, and creating new family-supporting jobs.

WHEN IT COMES TO FISCAL MANAGEMENT, WISCONSIN DEMOCRATS ARE ON YOUR SIDE