

Washington's inadequate and unreliable revenue system weakens our communities by forcing cuts in vital services that affect everyone's quality of life. We may be home to many of the nation's wealthiest people and most profitable corporations, but with our present system, Washington cannot bring in enough revenue to fund our basic responsibilities.

Costs are increasing whether we like it or not

In the next two years, we'll face at least \$2.6 billion in additional costs just to provide the same level of services we do today. The causes are real and unavoidable: inflation, rising fuel and energy costs, more kids attending our schools, and changing demographics, such as the aging of baby boomers. Add to that another \$3.1 billion for mandated costs, including fixing overcrowded classrooms and funding K-12 education.

That does not include restoring billions already cut from essential services

Severe cuts over the past half-decade have hit nearly every community across the state:

- Long waiting lists for public health services, higher fees for visiting our State Parks, and impacts on public safety (*Source: OFM*)
- The second-largest tuition increase for state college in the nation, making it harder for families to afford college (*Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*)
- More than 35,000 parents and children losing supports (TANF) that help them weather difficult financial times and find employment (*Source: DSHS*)
- Food assistance reductions for more than 15,000 children (*Source: DSHS*)

Just "do the math"

How come Washington's revenue system doesn't add up? It's pretty simple. Watch this video from Mrs. Emerson, a Woodinville teacher, at: fairwarevenue.org/do-the-math.

