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Contact:
Ellen Shemitz
Executive Director
203-498-4240 x108
eshemitz@ctvoices.org

Short Term Approach to Budget Undermines Long Term Prosperity

In response to the current fiscal crisis, the legislature has debated significant cuts to programs that support children and families. Although such proposals may balance the budget for the coming year, they come at a significant cost to Connecticut’s neediest residents and the state’s long-term economic growth. Connecticut Voices for Children calls upon our state leaders to adopt a more balanced, strategic approach to budget setting: one that addresses structural flaws, prioritizes sustainable economic growth and targets investments to redress existing disparities in opportunity.

Our just released paper set forth three guiding principles for a strategic, equitable and sustainable state budget:

1. Adopt a balanced approach to budget setting, including review of the nearly $7.24 billion in tax revenues lost annually to tax expenditures.
2. Invest in essential human and physical infrastructure to ensure health and prosperity for the future.
3. Equalize tax burdens and resources to redress existing disparities in opportunity across our state.

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