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Campaign for Illinois' Future

Commitment to Key Principles

In tough economic times like these, Illinois families are struggling more than ever. The state's budget crisis means that vital human services – like education, health care, child care and more – are at risk of devastating cuts. Vital public services that families depend on simply can't withstand more cuts.

That is why the broad coalition of organizations that make up the Campaign for Illinois' Future are committed to the following key principles:

- **Illinois' budget must protect vital services families depend on.** Attempting to balance the budget by cuts alone will have disastrous consequences for Illinois families and our state's economic health. Illinois has an estimated budget deficit of \$12.4 billion. Health care, human services, education and public safety make up 96% of the state's budget. Cutting our way out of this crisis will threaten public services and the lives of Illinois residents.
- **Illinois must raise the income tax to generate enough new revenue to prevent cuts to vital services, but working families cannot shoulder the burden of fixing the deficit.** Illinois needs enough new revenue to address our structural deficit and prevent harmful cuts to health care, education and human services. That is why the FY10 budget must include a revenue package that includes an increase to the state's income tax – the best way to fill our staggering \$12.4 billion budget hole. But Illinois teachers, public servants and working families that depend on vital state programs cannot be asked to sacrifice more than their fair share to fix the state's budget deficit. The FY10 budget must emphasize tax fairness by ensuring that tax increases affect only those who can afford to pay more so that working families are protected as Illinois begins its economic recovery.

Signature

Date

Print Name