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**Deep cuts to school funding and state services under consideration
Laid off teachers, cuts to programs and lost days**

The legislature is more than halfway through their session with the goal of going home by June 30. Major work needs to be done to meet that deadline, like passing a budget for schools and critical state services. The Ways and Means Committee is in charge of writing the legislative budget and they have been busy with a "road show", a series of public hearings on the budget and proposed cuts.

State revenue pays primarily for education, human services and public safety with a small amount dedicated to other state services. Due to our heavy reliance on income tax and the economic crisis, Oregon tax revenue has dropped sharply. The expected budget hole is going to be \$4.4 billion short of the revenue needed to provide current services. This means thousands of laid off teachers and staff and lost days of school as well as deep cuts to human services and public safety.

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