



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
*Milwaukee County*  
SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WALKER WARNS STATE NOT TO BALANCE STATE BUDGET DEFICIT ON  
BACKS OF TAXPAYERS**  
**Tax Increases Would Put a Chill on Keeping Miller Jobs in Milwaukee County**

MILWAUKEE – County Executive Scott Walker sounded a warning about the \$652.3 million shortfall in the 2007/2009 state budget. He wants to block efforts to raise taxes to pay for the state budget deficit.

“State leaders failed to manage the state budget. The last thing we need is for the Governor and Legislature to raise state or local taxes to pay for this mess,” said Walker. “It is time for them to shrink state government operations.”

Walker warned that raising taxes to cover the deficit would push more residents and more jobs out of the state. The non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau announced the \$652.3 million deficit projection today for the 2007/2009 state budget.

“We are trying to give businesses like the Miller Brewing Company a reason to stay and grow in our area. Raising taxes at any level would send the wrong message to them and other employers,” said Walker. “Raising taxes would put a chill on efforts to keep Miller jobs in Wisconsin.”

Walker also noted that cutting funding to cover state mandated programs at the county level would only push a greater burden on to local property taxpayers. He suggests that the state maintain support for the programs or eliminate the mandates and free the county government of the expenses.

“Taxpayers at the state and county level should not have to pay for the failures of our state leaders,” said Walker.

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