



## News Release

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### House Budget Recognizes Economic Crisis

*This is the time to make painful budget cuts*

**Phoenix, AZ** – Steve Voeller, president of the Arizona Free Enterprise Club, a pro-growth advocacy group, today commended the House Appropriations Committee for passing a budget framework that chips away at the budget’s structural imbalance. The budget proposal includes \$670 million in spending cuts.

The bills that comprise the budget passed on straight party line votes with Republicans voting in support and the Democrats voting against.

**“The House Republicans deserve credit for moving the budget forward,”** Voeller said. **“We have an unprecedented budget crisis and we’re in the middle of a serious economic slump. How we get out of this mess will affect the state’s recovery.”**

**“The \$670 million in cuts should be the minimum, not the maximum.”**

The budget proposal, which now moves to the full House, does not rely on a future billion dollar tax increase.

The Free Enterprise Club has argued that a tax increase only serves to keep government spending at a level that is otherwise unsustainable and that its effect on the economy will only serve to deepen and lengthen the recession. According to recent calculations provided by the Goldwater Institute and Beacon Hill, an additional 14,000 private sector jobs will be lost if taxes go up by one billion dollars next year.

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