



**Scott Walker**  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Monday Morning

Dear Friend,

Earlier this year, I was one of the few elected officials in the country to not submit a wish list of projects from the federal stimulus funds.

As County Executive for Milwaukee County, I was supposed to be giddy about feeding from the federal trough. But I refused because, quite simply, I don't share Governor Doyle's insatiable appetite for government spending.

Today, I hope to earn your support for my fiscally disciplined leadership because I am facing heated opposition for my stance.

Politicians across Wisconsin, including Governor Jim Doyle, are criticizing my skepticism of the "free money" Washington is dangling in front of us.

They argue that the one-time federal funds can help fill the unprecedented budget shortfalls facing Wisconsin state government and many local governments in our state.

To me, the choice is clear: we can use the funds to create a real stimulus package that builds our economy and grows our way to fiscal responsibility or we can use the money to continue the failed leadership, dishonest budgeting, and fiscal mismanagement that created the budget shortfalls in the first place.

Imagine if a state like Wisconsin used the federal stimulus money to truly stimulate the economy. This is what I recently proposed in my Blueprint for Economic Prosperity.

Specifically, I called on Governor Doyle to use \$3.26 billion of the federal funds allocated to Wisconsin to end the state sales tax for the rest of 2009.

Imagine the benefit to retailers . . . to auto, truck, motorcycle and boat dealers . . . to home builders and remodelers . . . and to so many others hurt by the recession.

By ending our sales tax for 2009, Wisconsin would become a magnet for commerce throughout the Midwest.

Using the stimulus funds to put money directly into the hands of job creators doesn't just benefit retailers. Just think . . . a homebuilder working on a new site would save nearly \$5,000 on the purchase of materials this year. A construction company buying a new dump truck could save more than \$8,000.

Over, please . . .

The best part is that ending the sales tax will create jobs without adding to the size of government or the amount government taxes away from working families and struggling employers.

This approach worked three decades ago when we faced a national recession. President Ronald Reagan's tax cuts led to the largest peacetime economic boom in history. More than 20 million jobs and 5 million businesses were created in the wake of the Reagan tax cuts.

**The message of my Blueprint for Economic Prosperity is simple: hope doesn't come from a government handout.**

Hope comes from rebuilding our economy and restoring the economic security for families across Wisconsin.

Unfortunately, in Wisconsin, Governor Doyle has rejected hope in favor of doom and gloom. For months, Governor Doyle has claimed that Wisconsin's unprecedented \$5.7 billion budget deficit was inevitable in light of the national economic crisis.

One need only look at our success in Milwaukee County, however, to know that Wisconsin's budget mess was not inevitable. While Governor Doyle has run a budget deficit every year he has been Governor, Milwaukee County, where the taxpayers have entrusted me to be their County Executive, finished 2007 with a \$7.9 million surplus.

For 2008, Milwaukee County is expected to again end the year in the black because we made the tough budget decisions demanded by the taxpayers.

We streamlined government services to ensure that taxpayer funds were used to benefit the people rather than being wasted on bureaucracy.

We eliminated county positions and left others unfilled to cut costs and found out along the way that government can still provide core services with fewer staff.

We contracted with private vendors to provide better services at lower costs. And in some cases, we made painful decisions about where Milwaukee County could survive without the lavish services it had grown accustomed to providing.

No one likes making decisions like these but in tough economic times, fiscally responsible, decisive leadership is needed.

When the voters of Milwaukee County re-elected me in 2007 with 59 percent of the vote, it was a strong statement that they understood and appreciated a leader who could make the hard choices.

Continued . . .

I would be honored if you would show your support for my fiscally disciplined leadership by returning a contribution of \$25, \$35, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000 or more.

Governor Doyle has led the State of Wisconsin down the wrong path. After six years of failed leadership and dishonest budgeting, Wisconsin faces the largest deficit in its history.

The problem is Governor Doyle's insatiable appetite for government spending. According to the non-partisan Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, the state is anticipating tax revenues to fall \$1.1 billion in the next biennium from their 2007-2008 level.

That means that \$4.6 billion of the \$5.7 billion deficit, about 81%, can be attributed to Governor Doyle's lavish spending desires -- not the national economic fallout.

Rather than make the hard decisions that Wisconsin elected him to make, Governor Doyle recently introduced a state budget that uses \$2.5 billion in one-time federal money to balance the budget. Despite paying lip service to cuts, he also manages to increase government spending by 10% and pays for it by raising taxes by more than \$2.1 billion.

### **Governor Doyle has it wrong.**

Raising taxes on the people who live and create jobs in Wisconsin is not the answer. Instead, we need real reforms and real spending reductions in state and local governments.

Instead of asking working families and struggling employers to balance government deficits out of their own budgets, we should be asking government to become more efficient and effective. And we should also be asking government to do it in a way that creates jobs.

Again, it comes down to a clear choice: continue the failed leadership that got us into this mess or create a real stimulus package that grows the economy and not the government.

Or to put it another way, should we put the stimulus money in the hands of government or in the hands of the people? I pick the people.

I will push for lower taxes and better jobs. I will push for an action plan that improves our state instead of another pork program to help politicians get elected. From government to education to election laws -- I will fight for true reform of how government does OUR business!

Strong leadership, honest budgeting, and cutting taxes so families keep more of their hard-earned dollars is the best recipe for getting our economy moving again.

Instead, politicians are tripping over themselves to spend a trillion dollars of borrowed money on new government programs and projects in the name of economic stimulus. But even

Over, please . . .

Page Four

this loan -- essentially the largest mortgage in history -- will come due and when it does, our children and grandchildren will pay for this imprudence.

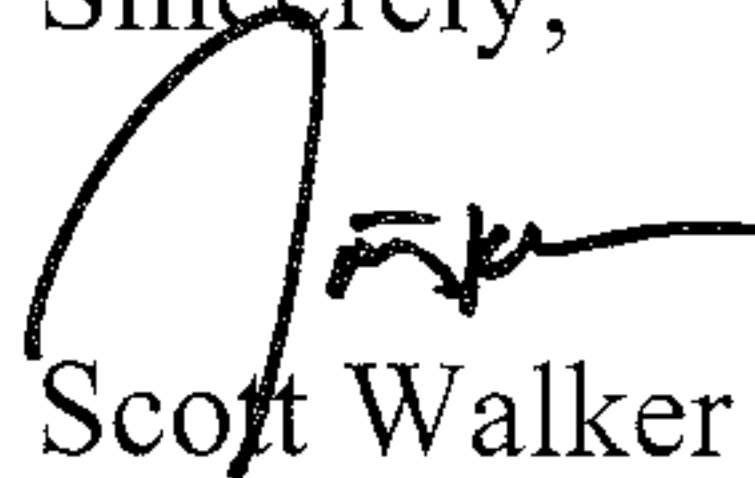
**We must do better!**

We can get Wisconsin working again.

You are one of Wisconsin's most committed Republicans and I know you care deeply about our Republican values and the future of our state and country. I would be honored to have you on my team.

Will you join me in creating a state that will once again become the envy of the nation? If so, I encourage you to send in your most generous contribution, today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Walker", written over the printed name.

Scott Walker

P.S. Together, we can put Wisconsin back on track. If not us, who?

P.P.S. My decision not to accept federal stimulus money was not popular with liberals, but it was the right thing to do. I need your help to share our commonsense message with people across Wisconsin. A government handout is not stimulus! Will you help, by sending a generous contribution of \$25, \$35, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000 or more?