



TABOR II: Making Tough Times Tougher

Vote NO on TABOR II

Protect Our Schools, Our Families, and Our Local Communities

TABOR II is the same bad idea voters already rejected.

- Out-of-state forces already pushed TABOR in 2006 and a TABOR-like proposal in 2004. Mainers rejected it both times because it's a flawed formula that would hurt Maine schools, families, and local communities. Now they're back, pushing TABOR II. Mainers should reject it again, once and for all.
- Colorado passed TABOR years ago and it was such a disaster for schools, health care and the economy that Colorado voted to suspend it. Why would we make the Colorado mistake?

TABOR II was a bad idea before. It's a worse idea now.

- TABOR II makes even less sense today, in the middle of the worst economic crisis we've seen in decades. The TABOR formula is rigid and arbitrary and will lead to even more job losses and painful cutbacks – and it will make it even harder for us to dig out of this recession.
- If we want to strengthen our economy and create jobs, we need to invest in things that will attract new business, like education, technology, health care, and safe roads. TABOR II would put a stranglehold on our ability to do that.
- TABOR II limits don't match the reality. TABOR II restricts spending to the rate of inflation, but most of our state spending goes to public schools, higher education, and health care – the costs of which now rise more than the rate of inflation.

We make spending decisions under Local Control. TABOR II'S formula replaces Local Control.

- We value our long-standing tradition of local control and town meetings. It is the way each community makes decisions to address its unique priorities and challenges.
- We *already* decide; TABOR II would simply replace our decision-making with a rigid, arbitrary formula.

TABOR II will hurt schools, families, and our local communities.

- Public education will face painful cuts. The recession has already led to \$27 million in cuts to our public schools and TABOR II will lead to even sharper cutbacks. This will hurt our kids' chances for a quality education and our ability to develop a workforce for economic recovery.
- During a recession, many Mainers rely more on services like rural health care and unemployment benefits. Passing TABOR II now could make tough times tougher for thousands of Maine families.
- Seniors could face cuts to important services like Meals on Wheels and home health care.
- Public safety could face cuts leading to longer Ambulance and police response times and outdated equipment.

