

MR CHMN

IT IS WITH SOME TREPIDATION I SPEAK TO YOU TODAY.

I DO NOT APPEAR REPRESENTING EVERGREEN NOR HIGHER EDUCATION GENERALLY MY COLLEAGUES HAVE ELOQUENTLY SPOKEN OF THE RAVAGES THIS PROPOSED BUDGET WOULD WREAK.

I SPEAK INSTEAD AS A CITIZEN, TAXPAYER AND STATE EMPLOYEE.

THE GOVERNOR PRESENTED HIS BUDGET ON DEC. 20<sup>TH</sup>. THIS LEGISLATURE WITH DISPATCH AND COURAGE PASSED A TAX BILL TO NOT ONLY FUND THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET BUT TO FURTHER ENHANCE FISCAL STABILITY.

WE ARE ALL FAMILIAR WITH WHAT HAS ENSUED SINCE. TACTICAL MANEUVERS, VETO MESSAGES, PRESS CONFERENCES [ABOUND]

OVERLOOKED IN THE CURRENT MELEE IS THE IMPORTANT FACT THAT BOTH THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATIVE MAJORITIES HAVE SPOKEN OUT FORCEFULLY FOR AN ADEQUATE BUDGET

~~THESE~~  
WE END UP AS PAWNS INSTEAD  
OF PARTNERS IN THE LEGISLATIVE  
POWER PLAYS BEING CONDUCTED.

TAXPAYERS ARE WORRIED AND CONFUSED  
STATE WORKERS ARE FRIGHTENED, RESTIVE,  
AND MAD.

THEY, LIKE YOU, ARE PROFESSIONALS,  
PROUD OF THEIR WORK AND TRYING  
TO PERFORM BETTER, WITH FEWER  
RESOURCES, AND LARGER DEMANDS  
THAN EVER.

JUST AS YOU WINCE FROM SOMETIMES  
UNJUSTIFIED PUBLIC CRITICISM, SO TOO  
DO STATE EMPLOYEES WINCE FROM  
UNJUSTIFIED LEGISLATIVE CRITICISM.

WE SHOULD BE ALLIES, NOT PROTAGONISTS  
IN THE STRUGGLE TO PROVIDE QUALITY  
SERVICE TO OUR CITIZENS IN THE  
MOST EFFICIENT AND HUMANE WAY  
POSSIBLE.

I PLEAD WITH YOU TO LAY ASIDE THE PARTISAN ONE-UP-MAN-SHIP WHICH HAS GROWN TO UNHEALTHY PROPORTIONS IN RECENT YEARS.



THE MAJORITY HAS THE PRIVILEGE OF PROPOSING SOLUTIONS ~ THE MINORITY HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO DO MORE THAN VOTE NO.



BOTH SHOULD WORK TOGETHER TO DEVELOP BUDGET AND TAX PROPOSALS WHICH SUSTAIN WASHINGTON'S LONG BELIEF IN QUALITY SERVICES AND PREPARES US FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY. [THE PATH WAS CLEARLY IDENTIFIED EARLY IN THIS SESSION.] WE ALL WANT TO HELP ~~IN THAT~~ ~~PROCESS~~ FIND THE WAY BACK TO THAT PATH.