



statement

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AFSCME: DON'T BLOW THE SURPLUS ON TAX BREAKS FOR BILLIONAIRES AND BIG CORPORATIONS

With today's forecast of a \$1.65 billion state budget surplus – up from a December estimate of \$1.4 billion – AFSCME Council 5 calls on the Legislature to focus investment on economic security for hardworking Minnesota families.

“Gov. Dayton has moved Minnesota from deficit to surplus, but there's more work to be done,” cautions Eliot Seide, executive director of AFSCME Council 5. “Legislators must resist the urge to blow the surplus on tax breaks for billionaires and big corporations.

“All Minnesotans deserve a fair shot at a better future. Let's focus on fair taxes, decent wages, and responsible investments in better transportation, smarter students, healthier families, safer communities, and cleaner water for everyone.

“The forecast is good news. It means state employees can continue to deliver the critical services that Minnesotans need without fear of layoffs.”

AFSCME supports Gov. Dayton's \$45.8 billion budget plan. He proposes using the surplus to expand prekindergarten, increase funding for public universities, and expand MinnesotaCare to serve more people.

AFSCME Council 5 is a union of 43,000 workers who advocate for excellence in services for the public, dignity in the workplace, and opportunity and prosperity for all working families.

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