

March 2010 Column –

From the Chair...

“...we suspend the will of the people for a period of time in order to do our business here...” - Senator Jim Hargrove.

What superciliousness! What nerve! What disdain! In essence, he is telling us to simply shut up because he knows better how to spend our money. And, therefore, he intends to vote on a bill that will set aside an initiative that mandates a two-thirds majority vote to raise taxes.

His sheer haughtiness is simply mind boggling. He blithely dismisses the repeated instructions of the voters – for whom he works – so that he, in company with his out-of-control spendthrift colleagues, may continue to squander our money. Just what the heck does he not understand about the word NO!

And then, of course, coupling arrogance with ignorance, he proceeded to vote on the wrong bill and excused himself by saying ““Sometimes with the way things are moving as quickly as they are moving, we don't check as closely as we can.”

Right... and where have we seen that before? Can you say Obamacare?

If Hargrove and his wastrel colleagues were individuals instead of a government entity, they would be either in bankruptcy court or jail. Or both.

Why is it that an otherwise supposedly intelligent group of men and women are, upon election to the legislature, suddenly stripped of all economic acumen and insight? Not to mention a sense of duty to those who elected them?

Why is it that they cannot make logical cost-effective decisions based upon the realities of decreased income rather than conducting themselves as helpless addicts in search of their next fix?

Budgeting is not rocket science! Congressional dithering and posturing notwithstanding, the solution to the revenue problem is really quite straightforward. Simply review total revenue anticipated this year, look back in time to a period of a similar revenue income, and reduce anticipated expenditures to those budgeted in that year.

I know that this sounds crazy but maybe, just maybe it would work. You know, basing our spending on income rather than merely plucking a spending figure from the air and then raising taxes to meet it. Tell you the truth, there is just too much plucking around in our legislature these days... And I, for one, am tired of being plucked...

Dick Pilling
Chair, Clallam County Republican Party