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Louisiana Budget Project

PROVIDING INDEPENDENT,
NONPARTISAN research and analysis
of Louisiana fiscal issues and their
impact on low and moderate
income residents.

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2011 Legislative Wrap-up

(Baton Rouge – July 1, 2011) A new report by the Louisiana Budget Project reviews the state budget for the new FY2012 fiscal year. Unfortunately, the budget does little to address Louisiana’s standing as one of the unhealthiest, least educated, and poorest states in the nation.

According to the Louisiana Budget Project, this budget is balanced on the backs of the poor and continues to underfund our crumbling education system and cash-strapped hospitals.

Rather than adopting a balanced approach that includes new revenues, the budget relies on spending cuts to programs vital to Louisiana’s future and one-time revenues that extend our fiscal crisis into the next year.

The new budget continues to place the cost of the 2007 and 2008 tax cuts, which primarily benefitted the well-to-do, onto the poor and the middle class.

The FY2012 budget:

- Increases the cost of a college education for Louisiana’s working families;
- Cuts programs that benefit trouble teens;
- Further weakens Louisiana’s poorly performing public education system; and
- Cuts funding for Louisiana’s charity hospital system.

By adopting this budget, the governor and legislature acquiesce to Louisiana’s status quo of poverty, poor health, and lack of education by continuing to reduce funding for human services, health care, and education.

“We can do better. We should do better,” said Edward Ashworth, director of the Louisiana Budget Project.

The Baton Rouge-based Louisiana Budget Project provides independent research and analysis of Louisiana fiscal issues and their impact on low- and moderate-income residents.

For a copy of the full report and more information on LBP, visit www.labudget.org and read [2011 Legislative Wrap-up: The No-No Session](#).

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