

NEWS RELEASE

# IOWA TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

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## **Iowa Taxpayers Association to Culver: Abide by Budget Principles**

**Des Moines** - The **Iowa Taxpayers Association** (ITA), the state's leading nonpartisan business tax policy resource calls for Governor Culver to abide by a series of well established guidelines as he completes his budget recommendation to the 83<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly. Governor Culver is constitutionally charged with completing his work by the end of this week.

“We have seen numerous examples in the past of diverting statutorily designated funds to the general fund to keep the books balanced” Ed Wallace, President of the Iowa Taxpayers Association said. In the Condition of the State Address, Culver suggested using Road Use Tax Fund funds to pay for State Troopers.

“Given the shape of state finances, it is important for the Governor to take the lead in ensuring that program funding is not being shifted to property taxes or fees” Wallace said.

The Iowa Taxpayers Association Sound Budgeting Principles:

**Avoid the use of one-time or time-limited sources for ongoing expenses.**

**Avoid implementing new programs for a partial fiscal year.**

**Avoid multi-year accelerating commitments.**

**Avoid new automatic, or "standing," appropriations.**

**Accurately determine revenue and expenses.**

**Align expenses and revenue in the same fiscal year.**

**Avoid shifting program funding to property taxes or fees.**

**Avoid diversion of funds statutorily authorized for a specific objective to other purposes.**

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