

Walker and Republicans are Lying About the Budget Crisis

Posted on Oct 22, Posted by [Bob Kiefert, Green Bay Progressive](#) Category [Wisconsin](#)



Non-partisan Politifact exposes political cover-up.

MADISON - Today's [analysis by the non-partisan Politifact](#) shows that Governor Walker and Republican leaders have been caught lying about the state's financial condition rather than acknowledge that the policies they have pursued have created a \$1.8 billion budget crisis.

We reached a trusted local source, **State Senator Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay)** for comment.



"Over and over Governor Walker and Republican leaders have tried to convince people that we do not have a budget crisis despite data from the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau that shows the state is facing a \$1.8 billion deficit heading into the next budget cycle" said Hansen. "If they had said it once or twice and acknowledged their mistake it would be one thing. But despite being called out on their fiction they continue to tell the people something they know is not true. They're lying plain and simple."

Using a long-established method that has been accepted and used by governors and members of both political parties Politifact concluded that Wisconsin is in fact facing a \$1.8 billion structural deficit going into the next budget cycle.

Hansen went on: "Giving away billions in tax breaks to their rich and corporate friends at the expense of our kids' education, wasting millions in tax dollars on failed and suspect private

voucher schools and steering millions in tax dollars to their campaign contributors under the guise of economic development has created not just a budget crisis but also a jobs crisis and income crisis for Wisconsin families. It is shameful behavior and lying about it only makes it worse.”

Under Governor Walker Wisconsin is facing a \$1.8 billion deficit, is dead last for job growth in the Midwest since he took office, Wisconsin families have seen their yearly incomes fall by over \$2,700 and Wisconsin workers are now earning \$5,000 less per year than their counterparts in Minnesota.

Finally, Hansen said: “Instead of cherry-picking statistics, using false numbers and trying to spin the facts, Governor Walker and the Republicans owe the people of this state an apology—both for the economic disaster they’ve created and for not being honest about it.”

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