



Bobby Jindal
GOVERNOR



GOVERNMENT REFORM:

CONTROLLING RUNAWAY
STATE SPENDING

Fresh Start
FOR *Louisiana*

A MESSAGE FROM BOBBY JINDAL

Dear Fellow Louisianians,

I always keep close to my heart the core belief that this election is much more important than any one person or agenda.

To put it simply, this election could be one of our last chances to decisively break free from the mistakes of the past and finally put our state on the path to success.

No more settling for last place on all the good lists and first place on all the bad lists.

No more being content with leaders that put their personal interests before those of the people who put them in office.

No more reckless spending habits from the State Capitol that will bankrupt our state in the years to come.

We can, and must, do better than that.

We have a state government that has grown addicted to spending.

The Legislature spent over \$30 billion this year, double the amount from just six years ago. The state budget is a ticking time bomb, waiting to explode in future years.

Instead of acting responsibly with the taxpayers' money, our government has taken the easy way out. While some investments this year were for important items, such as pay raises for teachers and crucial funding for law enforcement, state spending is completely out of control.

There was no money allocated to fund ethics training for state employees or to make a long-term commitment to transportation, but there was plenty to fund over 1,000 new state workers without a comprehensive plan and add more than \$1 billion in new, recurring spending funded by one-time dollars.

This Legislature also chose to leave no slush fund behind. Over 600 line-item special Legislative projects, totaling over \$62 million, were funded without real disclosure. This is nearly double the amount in earmarks passed just one year ago!

When citizens, good government groups and the media asked Legislators for specifics on the projects they inserted into the bloated budget, the politicians refused to release the details claiming that it was not public record. This is outrageous.

Louisiana cannot afford politicians making irresponsible fiscal decisions over real choices to transform and strengthen our state. Working to grow bureaucracy rather than instill reform will do nothing to move our state forward.

My Plan of Action will take the fundamental reforms we must embrace to slow down in its tracks this runaway spending train coming from the State Capitol.



A proven record of ethical leadership

"Jindal, tapped by Gov. Mike Foster to clean up waste, Medicaid fraud and abuse in Louisiana's largest bureaucracy, is delivering."

*-The Times Shreveport,
August 24, 1996*

"DHH's zero-tolerance policy against waste, abuse, and fraud has led to the collection of \$23 million from 15 inpatient psychiatric providers."

*-American Press,
July 17, 1997*

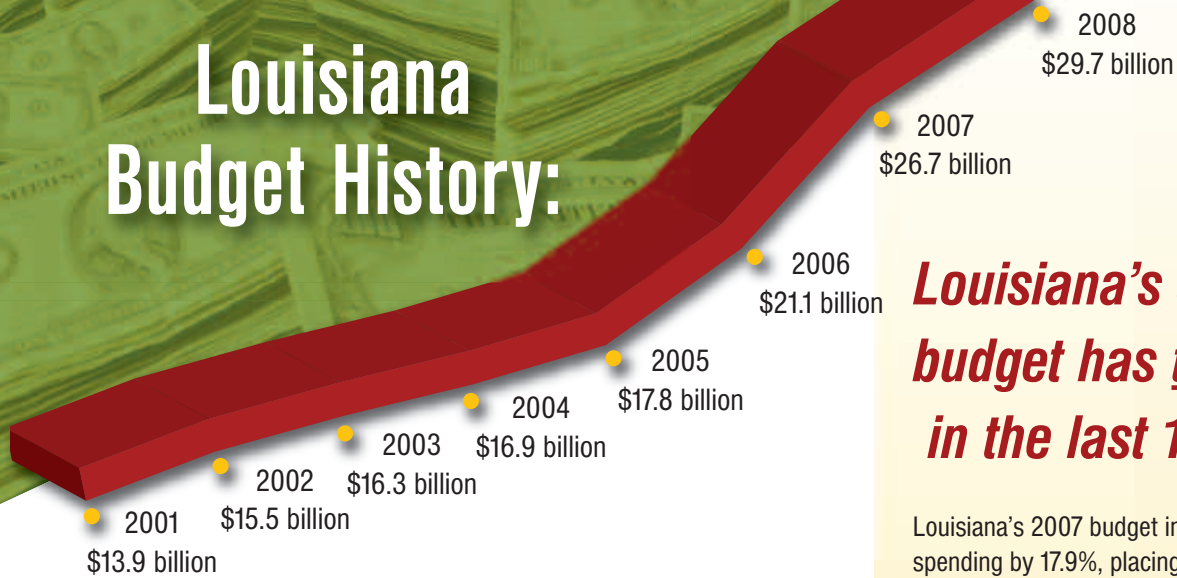
"Mr Jindal's style stood out at his office, too. He insists on writing a check each month for personal phone calls, which has forced the state accountant to revise the computer system to handle personal checks."

*-The Wall Street Journal,
November 30, 1998*

"Put simply, Bobby Jindal is someone who can make things happen. He is also a decent, ethical man. Given the history of corruption in this state, Louisiana needs a governor who takes care to abide by ethics rules rather than looking for shortcuts around them."

*-The Times-Picayune,
September 21, 2003*

Louisiana Budget History:



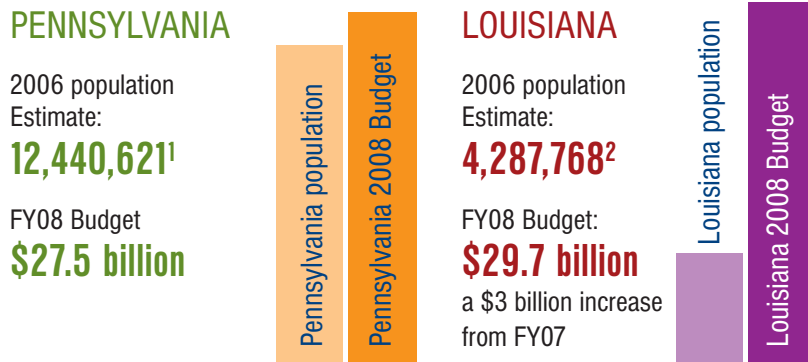
Louisiana's state budget has tripled in the last 12 years...

Louisiana's 2007 budget increases state spending by 17.9%, placing our state 5th in the nation. The national average increase was 8.6%. Several states actually cut state spending.

(June 2007 Fiscal Survey of States - NASBO and NGA)

State government has grown by roughly \$15 billion over 6 years.

Louisiana's state budget is \$3 billion higher than Pennsylvania's, a state with three times our population.



Source: 1 (<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/42000.html>) 2 (<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/22000.html>)

State employees per capita according to the 2006 US Census:

Per capita (state employees/total population)

Louisiana - 1 out of every 42

Alabama - 1 out of every 44

Mississippi - 1 out of every 46

North Carolina - 1 out of every 54

Tennessee - 1 out of every 61

Georgia - 1 out of every 63

Texas - 1 out of every 71

Florida - 1 out of every 83

State government has grown too big, too fast...

The economy shrinks when government grows too large - and Louisiana's state government has ballooned in recent years.

(www.heritage.org/research/budget/bg1831.cfm)

In 2007, the State of Louisiana will employ over 100,000 people.

That is more people than Tennessee, Arizona, Colorado, Wisconsin, Maryland, Minnesota, and South Carolina - all of which have higher populations.

(US Census)



Bobby Jindal's Action Plan

Reforming Government and Controlling Runaway State Spending

DO AWAY WITH SLUSH FUNDS:

- Require ALL non-governmental entities seeking state grants to publicly file on-line specific reports detailing how their organization is structured, any relationships to elected officials or their families, and how state money would be used.
Any group asking the state government for taxpayer dollars must fully explain their organization and detail their spending intentions.
- Issue annual public reports on-line of ALL state grants by funding source, agency, parish and type of service provided.
If the state is spending taxpayer dollars through a grant, the public has a right to easily review that spending.
- Require Legislators to publicly file specific reports in advance on ALL non-governmental entities for which they request funding.
If a Legislator pushes to direct spending to a certain group, then he or she must show explicitly why this is a good use of taxpayer money.
- Improve public access to the current grant database to make it a state-of-the-art, easy to navigate resource that provides full disclosure of grants, contracts and bond allocations of the state.
A one-stop-shop for the public to review how their elected officials spend their money will help lift the secret veil on government spending.
- Use the line-item veto power to target any project not properly disclosed.
The Legislature must recognize that they have no choice but to become better stewards of the people's money.
- Require non-governmental entities receiving state funds to file an annual report of how those funds were spent. Increase penalties for any entity found to be misleading the public on its mission or misusing state funds.
We must provide aggressive oversight to ensure that any group misusing taxpayer dollars will be held accountable. The slush fund, gravy train days are over.

TARGET AND ELIMINATE WASTEFUL SPENDING AND BUREAUCRATIC INEFFICIENCIES IN GOVERNMENT:

- Require every cabinet secretary to conduct a department-wide audit within 6 months to identify wasteful spending, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and specific opportunities for cost-saving practices.
Any appointment in my administration will know that improving government performance and slashing red-tape is a top priority. Defenders of the status quo need not apply.
- Assess top-performing departments, boards, and commissions in other states to identify and implement measures that increase efficiency, productivity, and customer service.
We should constantly reevaluate government by seeking out state governmental best practices around the country, learning from their success, and implementing proven models here at home.

- Require each state department to conduct regular customer service surveys and post results on the department's website.
The best way to know if government is meeting the core mission of serving the best interest of the people is to consistently ask the public for feedback.
- Encourage each department to identify flex-time or scheduled work from home opportunities for state workers.
Any opportunities to lower the amount taxpayers pay for state office expenses or limit the traffic on our roadways from commuting state workers will be pursued as long as customer service is not sacrificed in the process.
- Demand that all departments act as honest stewards of the people's money by requiring agency expenditures to be viewable on-line.
The public should be able to easily access and understand how state departments are spending taxpayer dollars.
- Give qui tam-type incentives and standing to citizens to pursue fraud cases on which the state government refuses to act.
If the government and its contractors are acting in a fraudulent manner, taxpayers should be rewarded for helping to stop these acts.
- Develop a statewide anti-fraud program and require each cabinet secretary to designate a staff member to implement it. Put in place a 1-800 hotline number and website so that any instance of fraud within that department can be anonymously reported.
Aggressive departmental oversight and allowing the public to be our eyes and ears will help detect and stop deceptive and fraudulent activity in state government.
- Close the spending loophole that allows departments to request funding for state workers that do not exist in order to reprogram that funding for other purposes.
Any funding allocated to a department for a state worker should be returned to the treasury if those workers are not hired or needed.
- Upon the retirement of a state worker, examine opportunities to incorporate those job duties among existing workforce.
Before replacing a retired worker, we owe it to the taxpayers to determine if improved efficiency in government can best meet the needs of the people.
- Pursue and expand usage of new technologies and best practices to provide improved services at reduced cost.
Any technological investment or government restructuring effort that can provide top quality service to the people at a lower cost will be pursued.

“Government spending is not just about writing checks to anyone and everyone. It is about being a responsible steward of the public's money. It is about holding public officials and recipients accountable for the financial decisions they make on our behalf. It is about setting sound fiscal priorities and sticking to them.”

– BOBBY JINDAL



RESPONSIBLY MANAGE AND ACCOUNT FOR SPENDING OF HARD-EARNED TAXPAYER DOLLARS:

- Identify and recruit top-caliber cabinet secretaries.
All appointments must be talented, articulate, experienced managers that can consistently deliver desired outcomes while reducing costs wherever possible.
- Ensure a strong Legislative Auditor’s office.
We must ensure that audits are never politically motivated and are aggressive in uncovering waste and inefficiency in government.
- Make permanent and expand the effectiveness of the Inspector General’s office.
The Inspector General must be a proven investigator and given the clear mission to examine all levels of the executive branch to reveal any instance of mismanagement, fraud, or corruption.
- Improve upon our system of performance-based budgeting by focusing on meaningful outcomes and eliminating fraud and abuse in the process.
We must put in place clear performance indicators throughout the entire budget process to increase transparency, cost savings, and improved outcomes in government.
- Require disclosure of all state contracts with vendors so the public knows who is providing services to public entities and at what cost to the taxpayer.
All state contracts granted to provide a service to a public entity must be transparent to ensure the efficient use of taxpayer dollars.

MAKE THE LEGISLATURE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE CITIZENS THEY REPRESENT:

- Prohibit Legislators from changing their votes after floor action is completed.
The public must clearly understand not only how their elected official voted, but also when he or she voted that way.
- Require all Legislative floor proceedings and committee hearings to be broadcast free of charge over the Internet.
All Legislative proceedings should be archived for at least 3 years to ensure the public has sufficient opportunity to see their elected officials at work.
- Prohibit Legislators from giving themselves pay raises that take effect before the subsequent election.
Any increase in salary approved by the Legislature should take effect after the next election so the public can decide who deserves that compensation.
- Require any elected official convicted of crimes related to their position to forfeit the taxpayer-funded portion of their pension.
The public should not be required to compensate any criminal actions of their elected officials.

Bobby Jindal has a proven record of cracking down on fraud and abuse and controlling spending.

Years ago, Louisiana’s Department of Health & Hospitals (DHH) was facing a \$400 million Medicaid deficit. Without dramatic changes, many thousands of families and children would have lost access to critical health care services, and other spending priorities like education would have sustained large cuts to balance the state budget.

As Secretary of DHH, Bobby Jindal leveraged our existing state health care resources more effectively, was ever vigilant against fraud and abuse, and aggressively avoided wasteful spending.

The result? The state was able to reduce spending by hundreds of millions of dollars, even as health outcomes improved. Medicaid spending was cut below the national average for the first time in five years, and the upward spending trend of the early 90s was finally reversed.

“Jindal’s Tenure At DHH Is ‘A Success Story That Has Totally Transformed A Department That Had Been Allowed To Run Amok For Years.’”

– (EDITORIAL, “STATE’S HEALTH AGENCY HAS WORKED MIRACLES,” [LAKE CHARLES] AMERICAN PRESS, 7/17/97)



“This election is about all Louisianians coming together and finally taking the steps needed to meet today’s challenges rather than just pushing them along the road for our grandchildren to inherit. We owe that to ourselves and to future generations of Louisianians.”

– BOBBY JINDAL

Paid for by Friends of Bobby Jindal.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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