

New York's business community is not the government's bank, and the state budget is not its ATM card.

In the face of steadily worsening economic news, now is clearly **not the time** for significant increases in state spending and more than **a billion dollars** in new taxes and fees for New York businesses.

Yet that is **exactly** what the Governor's FY 2009 Executive Budget proposes.

Tough times call for tough choices, so New York State's business community is calling on the Governor and the Legislature to **face the facts** and enact a FY 09 budget that is fiscally disciplined and promotes **real economic growth** in every region of the state.



The
Business
Council

NEW YORK POST
24 HOURS A DAY

**NY'S BUDGET BLUES;
GOV'S KILLER SPENDING HIKES**

By KENNETH ADAMS

March 10, 2008 - The governor's budget puts New York at a disadvantage against competing states; What's more, it boosts costs for businesses large and small at a time when they can least afford it.

That's because his proposed 5 percent increase in state spending requires - no surprise - raising taxes and fees on private-sector employers by some \$1.3 billion. To fund his spending hikes, the new budget hits up banks, energy producers and health-insurance companies, among others.

Note that that these are all heavily regulated industries - the kind that can and likely will pass the cost of these tax and fee hikes on to consumers: to small-business owners, homeowners and just plain folk who turn on a light, see a doctor or use a bank.