

Don't Let the House Budget Take Us Back in Time

Making the point with a horse and buggy, period costumes and street theater, group says cuts-only approach will set North Carolina back decades

RALEIGH (May 3, 2011) -- Slashing funds for education, health care and job creation will send North Carolina back in time to a far less prosperous era, demonstrators in period costumes riding a horse and buggy said Tuesday.

"To relieve destitution, we must combat the wicked force of a slash-and-burn budget. We need the fuel of new revenue to power our travels down the path to tomorrow," exclaimed one demonstrator addressing the audience. [Photos are available here.](#)

A group calling themselves the Back In Tyme Budget Players arrived wearing antiquated dress and traveling in a horse and buggy. While speaking from the steps of the General Assembly, they sent the message that the House budget will push North Carolina backward.

"The props and costumes are fun, but they're meant to convey a very serious message," said Rob Thompson, a coordinator of the Together NC coalition. "If we pass this cuts-only budget, it will set North Carolina back decades in terms of education, public safety and economic prosperity."

The Back In Tyme Budget Players were organized by Together NC. Together NC is a collection of more than 115 non-profit organizations, service providers, and professional associations. The Together NC coalition has come together to promote wise choices for shared prosperity for all North Carolinians. For more information, visit <http://www.togethernc.org/>

"North Carolina can't afford to go back to a time with fewer teachers, firefighters and mental health workers," said Thompson. "With joblessness already near 10 percent in the state, a budget that fires tens of thousands of workers who educate our children and keep our communities safe is the wrong approach for North Carolina."

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