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**ASSEMBLYMAN SCHIMMINGER OPPOSES BORROWING
TO CLOSE THE STATE'S BUDGET GAP**

In late March, the New York State Assembly unveiled its 2010-11 proposed budget resolution, which included \$2 billion in borrowing for operating expenses to close the \$9.2 billion budget gap.

“I could not, in good conscience, vote in favor of this budget resolution – in that it raised spending and did so by borrowing to pay operating expenses,” said Assemblyman Robin Schimminger, D-C-I-Kenmore. “We must scale the budget back to match the actual revenue that we have, not increase it by borrowing or taxing to reach an unprecedented level of spending that some may want.”

Schimminger also voted against the enacted 2009-10 budget last year, because it made too many bad choices with regard to taxing and spending more than the state could afford. He said he's prepared to vote against the budget again this year should borrowing for operating expenses be included in the final 2010-11 budget put before the Legislature.

“I've repeatedly urged that we cannot raise taxes, and instead we must get spending under control by making essential cuts now,” Schimminger said. “This will require difficult and painful choices. It won't be easy, but it's the responsible thing to do, and we must deal with it together.”

New York State's economic outlook continues to be bleak as the extended budget process continues. Schimminger said the state's priority needs to be to control state spending and promote economic and job growth in a way that will not impose borrowing and new taxes on the residents of New York State.

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