We can make a difference.

We can tax the rich and their corporations to meet our needs:

• Impose an oil severance tax of 25 percent on all oil produced in California. Every other oil producing state has one.
• Develop a split-roll tax system, protecting Prop. 13 tax levels for homeowners while requiring businesses and corporations to pay their fair share of state taxes.
• Create a State Bank of California similar to the State Bank of North Dakota.
• Pass state taxes by a simple majority vote of the state legislature.
• Bailout state and local governments, not the banks.
• Repeal corporate tax breaks and raise the tax on high incomes.

But we need a fundamental change:

As long as the wealthy and corporations control our country, they will take more and we will get less. They will continue to destroy our environment, exploit our labor, and reduce our services for ever-increasing profits. They will continue to use half of our Federal tax dollars for the military and our young people as cannon fodder to invade and occupy other countries.

The Peace and Freedom Party stands for socialism. We can join together and take control of our lives, our economy, and our future.

REGISTER PEACE & FREEDOM

Working class people need their own party, one that stands for the needs of society and the preservation of the earth.

TEL: 510 465-9414 OR 323-960-5036
EMAIL: info@peaceandfreedom.org
P&F WEBPAGE: www.peaceandfreedom.org

APRIL 15 IS COMING.

Are you tired of paying taxes to support endless war and occupation? Go to the P&F web page to read one P&Fer’s story, “Confessions of a War Tax Resister: Trying not to Pay for War.”

Wisconsin Workers Fight Back

When Republican Scott Walker, the new governor of Wisconsin, announced a bill to end collective bargaining rights for public employees, union workers responded swiftly. Tens of thousands of protesters massed at the state capital and stayed there.

Ten school districts canceled classes for at least two days after 40% of the state's teachers called in sick to go to the protest.

While some union leaders claim that they will accept all the cuts the legislature is demanding in exchange for maintaining their collective bargaining rights, many workers reject that notion. The 97-union South Central Federation of Labor, representing 45,000 workers in Madison and South Central Wisconsin, went on record Monday, February 21, as opposing all provisions contained in Walker's "Budget Repair Bill." It also voted to endorse preparations for a general strike.

(Thanks to the Organizer newspaper and reporter Taylan Acar for information about Wisconsin.)

How About California?

In our state, Democratic governor Jerry Brown plans to negotiate away the pay and benefits of public workers. He proposes to reduce take-home pay by ten percent and increase state employee and retiree contributions toward their health plans. Union leaders and members have rallied in Sacramento in solidarity with Wisconsin's workers.

We need to all stand together: STOP THE CUTS!
Another Year, Another Budget Crisis

What is the same?

We get less education and pay more

- Community Colleges: $400 million cut, fees increased more than 38%
- State Universities: $500 million cut, 8% tuition increase
- University of California: $500 million cut, 10% tuition increase
- K-12 schools: After adjusting for inflation, funding in 2010-2011 is less than that of the previous year, and will decrease further in 2011-2012.

Our lifeline is shredded thinner

- Medi-CAL: $1.7 billion cut
- CalWORKS: $1.5 billion cut
- Childcare and child development: $750 million cut
- In home support services: $486 million cut

(All budget information and graphs from the California Budget Project)

Our tax burden increases

- The lower your income, the more of it you owe.
- The Governor is proposing to extend last year's temporary tax increases, which hit the poorest people even harder.

And the rich pay less

- Tax cuts for the wealthy enacted since 1993 will cost the state more than $13 billion in 2011-2012.
- Corporate taxes have declined compared to corporate profits.

What is different?

These cuts and regressive tax extensions are being proposed by Jerry Brown, a governor from the Democratic Party, and touted as an economic first-aid package by the Democratic majority in the legislature. Last year they were proposed by Republican governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and reluctantly agreed to by the same legislature.