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Contact: Sherry Nelson, 360-704-4308, [shnelson@sbctc.edu](mailto:shnelson@sbctc.edu)

## **Community and technical college board supports revenue to balance further cuts to education funding**

OLYMPIA, Wash. – The Governor’s budget and revenue proposal for addressing the \$1.4 billion deficit includes a reduction of 15 percent – \$160 million – to higher education, as well as a revenue package.

In the wake of this additional cut to higher education, community and technical colleges estimate that up to 40,000 fewer students will be served.

This cut is on top of three years of budget reductions and tuition increases. Since 2009, community and technical college tuition has increased by 30 percent and state support has dropped more than \$1,000 per student.

The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges supports the Governor’s balanced approach to addressing the 2011-2013 budget deficit.

“More cuts will have a crippling effect, not only on access and affordability for our students, but also our state’s economic recovery,” said Sharon Fairchild, State Board chair. “We are taking this stance to support new revenue and to let people know the impact of continued cuts to higher education.”

“There is simply no time to waste as we look down the barrel of these cuts,” said Charlie Earl, executive director of the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. “The Governor’s move to propose new revenue will enable us to continue to serve students and get people back to work.”

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### **About the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges:**

*The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges is led by a Governor-appointed board and provides leadership, advocacy, and coordination for Washington’s system of 34 public community and technical colleges. Each year, nearly 500,000 students train for the workforce, prepare to transfer to a university, gain basic math and English skills, or pursue continuing education. Visit our website at [SBCTC.edu](http://SBCTC.edu).*