



Washington State Senate

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Senator Michael Baumgartner
6th Legislative District

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April 18, 2012

Senate Ways & Means Committee Staff
311 J.A.C. Building
Olympia, WA

Dear Staff,

It has come to my attention that there is a disproportionate spending in the state supplemental capital budget the legislature adopted last week.

My own analysis has shown districts represented by democratic senators whose seats are up for re-election this year received nearly twice as much funding for construction projects as districts served by republican senators whose seats are also up for re-election (below).

In light of this, I request that the non-partisan Senate committee staff investigate whether the disparity in the supplemental 2011-13 capital budget is abnormal, or instead continues a trend concerning capital spending in election years.

Specifically, I'd like you to determine the accuracy of my analysis and produce an analytical comparison of capital budget spending allocation by legislative district over the last 10 election cycles to determine if there is a trend of districts represented by majority party incumbent Senators up for re-election receiving a disproportionate share of project spending.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Baumgartner".

Senator Michael J. Baumgartner
6th Legislative District

cc: Sen. Mike Hewitt
cc: Sen. Linda Parlette

Allocation of 2012 Washington State Capital Budget (non-state wide projects)				
	\$ Allocated in Budget	% of Total	Comparative Equal Share Amount if funds distributed evenly across population	Difference
Total for 27 Democrat Districts	610,864	62%	541,274	13% more than equal share
Total for 22 Republican Districts	371,448	38%	441,038	16% less than equal share
Total for 12 Senate D's up for reelection	423,426	43%	240,566	76% more than equal share
Total 13 Senate R's up for reelection	262,000	27%	260,613	Received equal share.