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Using REMI for Advocacy

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- National Education Association
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First Things First

- Everything I say is my view and opinion and does not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the NEA.

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Second Things Second

- What is Advocacy?
 - The act or process of supporting a cause or proposal.
- What is an Advocate?
 - One who defends or maintains a cause or proposal.
- NOTE: There is no need to have any knowledge about the cause or proposal.
 - That is the job of the researcher or analyst.

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What is the job of the Advocacy Researcher/Analyst?

- To provide content to the advocacy program or proposal.
- To make the content defensible.
- To give the advocate a talking point.
- Majority of Advocates **DO NOT** understand the data or information that provides for the talking point, but the content is necessary to provide legitimacy to the program or proposal.

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My Role

- My role is to provide analysis on the impact political policies have on a state's economy.
- I work with all 50 states.
- I provide information on the impact that state budget changes, tax policy changes, and expenditure changes have on a state's economy.
- Especially how these changes affect education.

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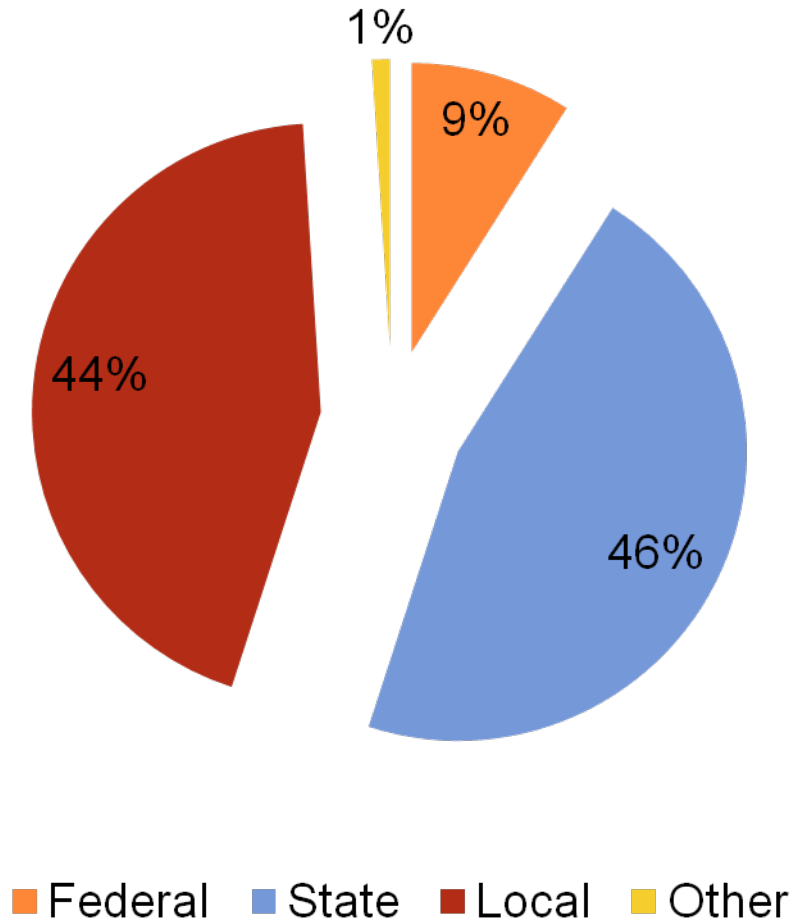
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Policies Reviewed

- Tax changes
 - Cuts (e.g., Property, Income, Sales)
 - Increases (e.g., Millionaires tax)
- Expenditure changes
 - Cuts (e.g., across the board)
 - Increases (e.g., RDFs)
- Changes to programs (e.g., school vouchers)

Education Revenues: Where does the money come from?

Average Percent of Revenue Sources for School Budgets



Local Funding of Education

Property Taxes

Sales Taxes

Income Taxes

Fees

Entrepreneurial

How is it allocated?

Funding Formula

State collects resources.

State allocates resources.

Resource variation caused by local contributions.

The Budget Process

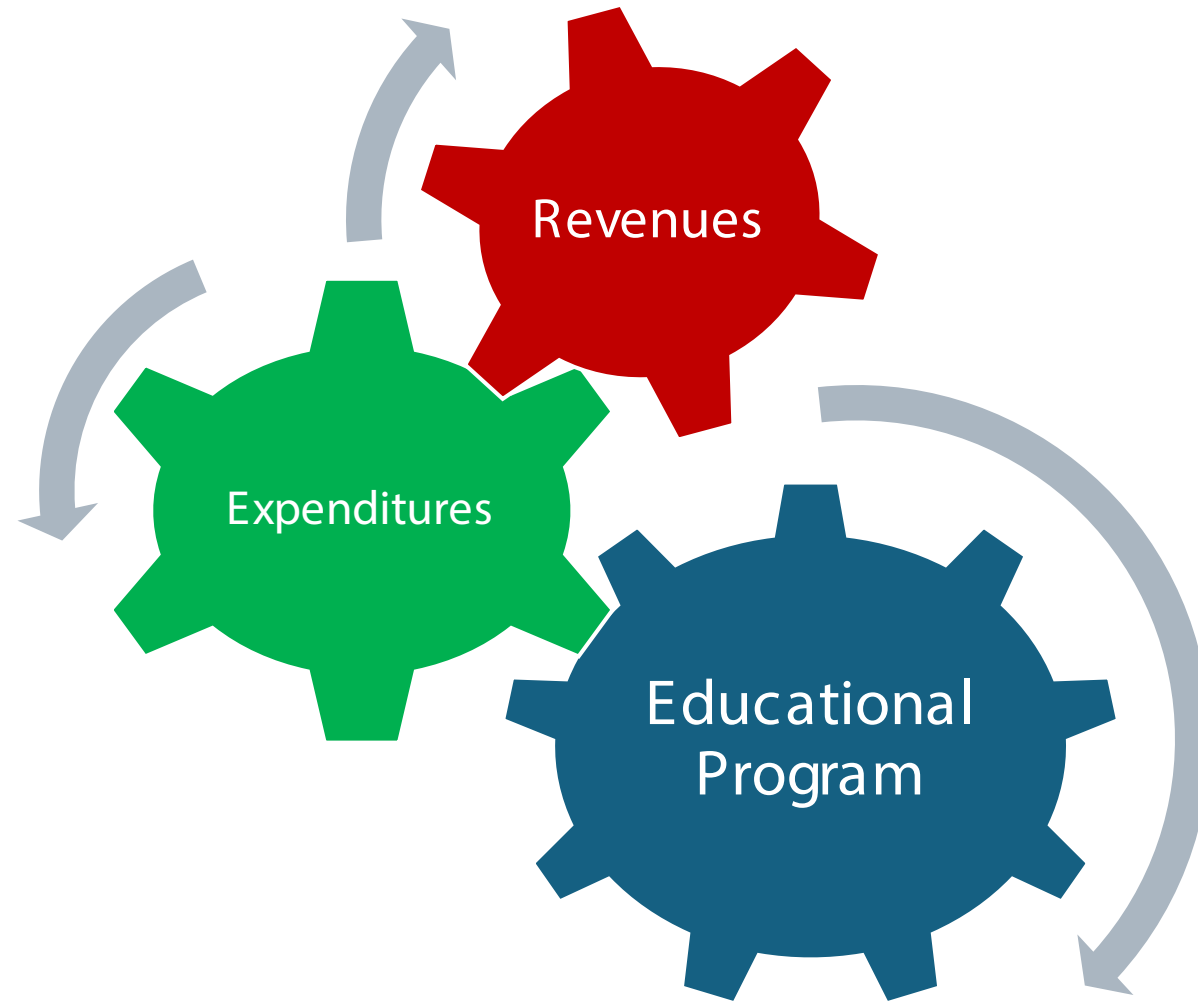
Revenues

Education Programs

Expenditures

Balanced budget

Budget Process



Voucher Example

Arkansas' Universal Voucher Program

Provides a voucher to parents to send students to any school they desire (Public, Private, Secular, Religious).

Students receiving a voucher can be attending public, private or home school (different amount for home school).

Voucher is 90% of previous year's amount per-student for charter school students.

Voucher comes from the state General Fund only.

Category	Policy Variable
Decrease in Federal & Local Education Revenues	State Government Revenues: Intergovernmental Transfers
Decrease in Total Public Education Expenditures	State Government Expenditures: Public Education
Increase in Voucher Payments	State Government Expenditures: Category with no Indicator or Policy Variable
Reallocation of Local Education Funding	State and Local Government Spending: Local Government
Decrease in Disposable Income of Switchers Receiving Vouchers	Consumption Reallocation
Increase in Disposable Income of Non-Switchers Receiving Vouchers	Consumption Reallocation
Increase in Private School Revenues	Output: Education; private

Cost of Voucher Program to Arkansas Economy

10-Yr Projected Impact of Arkansas Universal Voucher System

Total Employment	(8,678)
Population	(20,119)
Gross Domestic Product	(730,000,000)
Personal Income	(1,202,000,000)
Disposable Personal Income	(1,089,000,000)

Top 20 Industry Losses from Arkansas Universal Voucher System	
State and Local Government	(4,760)
Construction	(1,301)
Retail trade	(522)
Food services and drinking places	(476)
Real estate	(332)
Administrative and support services	(230)
Professional, scientific, and technical services	(210)
Ambulatory health care services	(141)
Social assistance	(113)
Personal and laundry services	(111)
Hospitals	(99)
Wholesale trade	(89)
Repair and maintenance	(78)
Food manufacturing	(59)
Religious, grantmaking, civic, professional, and similar organizations	(50)
Securities, commodity contracts, investments, and funds and trusts	(49)
Warehousing and storage	(45)
Accommodation	(44)
Truck transportation	(38)
Transit and ground passenger transportation	(36)
Total Top 20 Industry Losses	(8,783)
Total Jobs Gained under Universal Voucher System	359
Total Jobs Lost under Universal Voucher System	(9,035)
Net Jobs Gained/(Lost) under Universal Voucher System	(8,678)

So, What is My Job?

- To find the possible leaks
- Find ways to plug the hole
- Report this to 50-state affiliates
- Make everyone happy
- And don't panic

