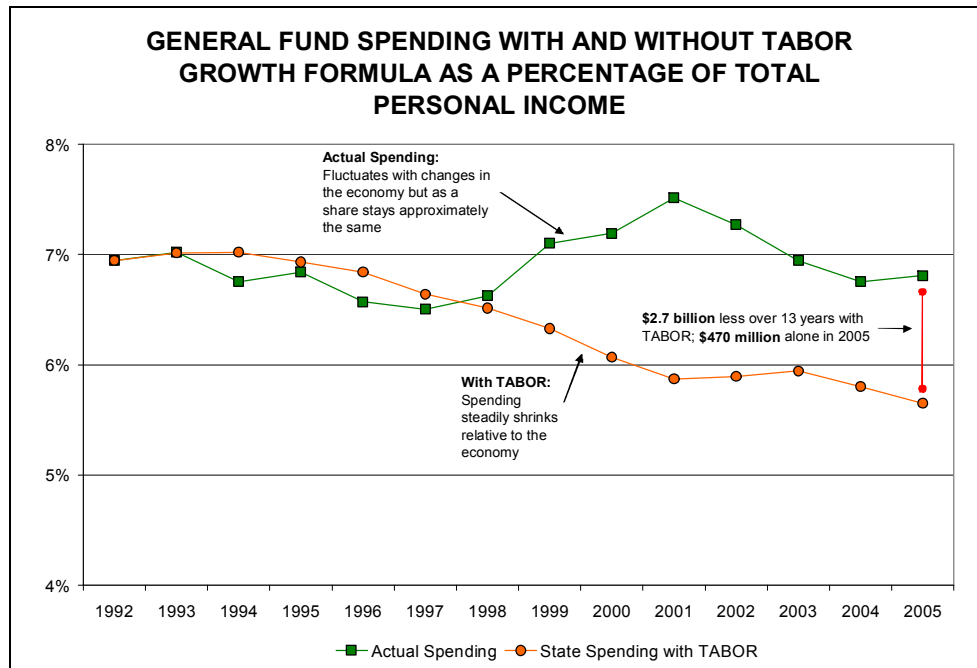


TABOR: HOW WOULD IT AFFECT MAINE?

The following analysis considers the effect TABOR would have had on Maine if the proposal currently under consideration had been enacted in 1992 – the same year Colorado voted to adopt TABOR. This multi-year analysis is appropriate because it takes a several year period of time — often a decade or more — for the full affects of a TABOR to become apparent.

- By 2005, general fund expenditures under TABOR would have been **17 percent** below actual expenditures or **\$470 million** less.
- Over the 13 years between 1992 and 2005, there would have been **\$2.7 billion** less in the general fund to support public services.



What would it mean to reduce expenditures by \$470 million in 2005? While it is impossible to determine what decisions the legislature would have made about cutting or preserving programs, it is useful to look at the magnitude of such a cut. A \$470 million cut could have been achieved by a 17% cut across the board or by eliminating, *all* general funding for the following departments and programs in 2005:

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| • Universities and Community Colleges | \$241 million |
| • Department of Conservation | 21 million |
| • Judicial Department | 54 million |
| • State Policy and Other Public Safety | 19 million |
| • Child Welfare and Foster Care | 57 million |
| • Mental Health Services | 67 million |
| • Environmental Protection | 6 million |
| • Veterans and Emergency Management | 5 million |

WHAT DO WE SPEND ON OUR ENVIRONMENT?

Environmental Protection and Conservation in Maine

To achieve approximately 12% of a \$470 million cut, all general fund expenditures for the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Conservation, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Department of Marine Resources could have been cut in 2005:

Department of Environmental Protection

\$6.2 million

- Remediation and Waste Management 0.4 million
- Land and Water Quality 4.2 million
- Air Quality 1.2 million
- Administration 0.4 million

Department of Conservation

\$21 million

- Parks 6.5 million
- Administration 1.5 million
- Forest Fire Control 7.4 million
- Insect and Disease Management 0.8 million
- Land Use and Regulation Commission 1.7 million
- Geological Survey 1.0 million
- Forest Management 1.9 million
- Natural Areas Program 0.1 million
- Other 0.1 million

Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

\$23 million

- Office of Commissioner 0.7 million
- Licensing 2.3 million
- Resource Management 2.0 million
- Fisheries and Hatcheries 2.8 million
- Enforcement 12 million
- ATV Safety 0.2 million
- Public Education 0.8 million
- Savings Fund Program 0.3 million
- Administration and Department 1.0 million

Marine Resources

\$9.3 million

- Resource Management 3.3 million
- Marine Patrol 4.0 million
- Community Resource Development 0.3 million
- Administration 1.7 million

It is important to remember that these programs also receive revenue from dedicated special funds. A portion comes from state fees that would fall under the TABOR tax and spending restrictions. Many of those fees are increased regularly to keep up with inflation. Under TABOR this would require a statewide vote each time. And even though federal funds make up the majority of these dedicated special funds and would not fall under the spending cap, those federal funds require state money for a match. With cuts from TABOR, Maine could have fewer state funds for match, and as a result, would receive less federal money.