

Utah Taxpayers Bear Heavy Burden

Jun 19, 2006 by Julie Rose

(KCPW News) If you add up all the state and local taxes paid by the average Utahn and divide by average income, the resulting the fourth highest tax burden in the nation. Utah Taxpayers Association Vice President Mike Jerman says the answer to lowering Utah's taxes as a percentage of income is a mix of tax cuts and spending reform.

The Association's analysis finds the average Utahn pays over 15 percent of his or her income in combined state, county and city taxes and fees. The challenge, of course, is Utah's enormous population of youth -- all needing to be educated. As the cost of public education grows, government spending increases and lawmakers are inclined to ask for more money. That's the wrong approach, says Jerman. He suggests more efficient spending and cutting taxes to make Utah more attractive to business and investment.

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