



*We paid our taxes...*

## NOW WE NEED THE STATES TO FUND OUR COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES!

### State investment in higher education is plummeting!

#### THE PROOF

1 - State and local taxes have averaged about 10% of personal income between the mid-1970s and 2009.

2 - Between 1980 and 2013, state fiscal investment in higher education (as a percentage of personal income) dropped by 46.7%.

3 - Between 2008 and 2013, state personal income increased by 15%. But state support for higher education (as a percent of personal income) dropped 11%.

Source: Post-Secondary Education Opportunity, February 2013

#### CONCLUSION

**Our states are in a  
"Race to Zero"  
funding for public  
higher education.**

*See where your state stands in the Race to Zero in the chart on the reverse of this page.*

### What state disinvestment means to our students

**TUITION UP:** The funding for each student that state and local government provided public colleges and universities fell by \$2,600, after adjusting for inflation, between 1987 and 2012. During the same time, per-student tuition rose by \$2,600.

In other words...

**The entire increase in tuition at public colleges and universities over the last 25 years has gone to make up for declining state and local revenue!**

During the 20 years between 1991 and 2011 (the latest year for which there is data), median household income grew by about 3%. But tuition at four-year public colleges grew by 159%.

**EDUCATION DOWN:** This left no additional funding to improve educational programs and services.

**DEBT UP:** Student debt is now at over \$1 trillion, a figure greater than all the credit card debt in this country.

Source: Center for Budget and Policy Priorities  
[www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3927](http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3927)

### Do states really need to cut higher ed funding?

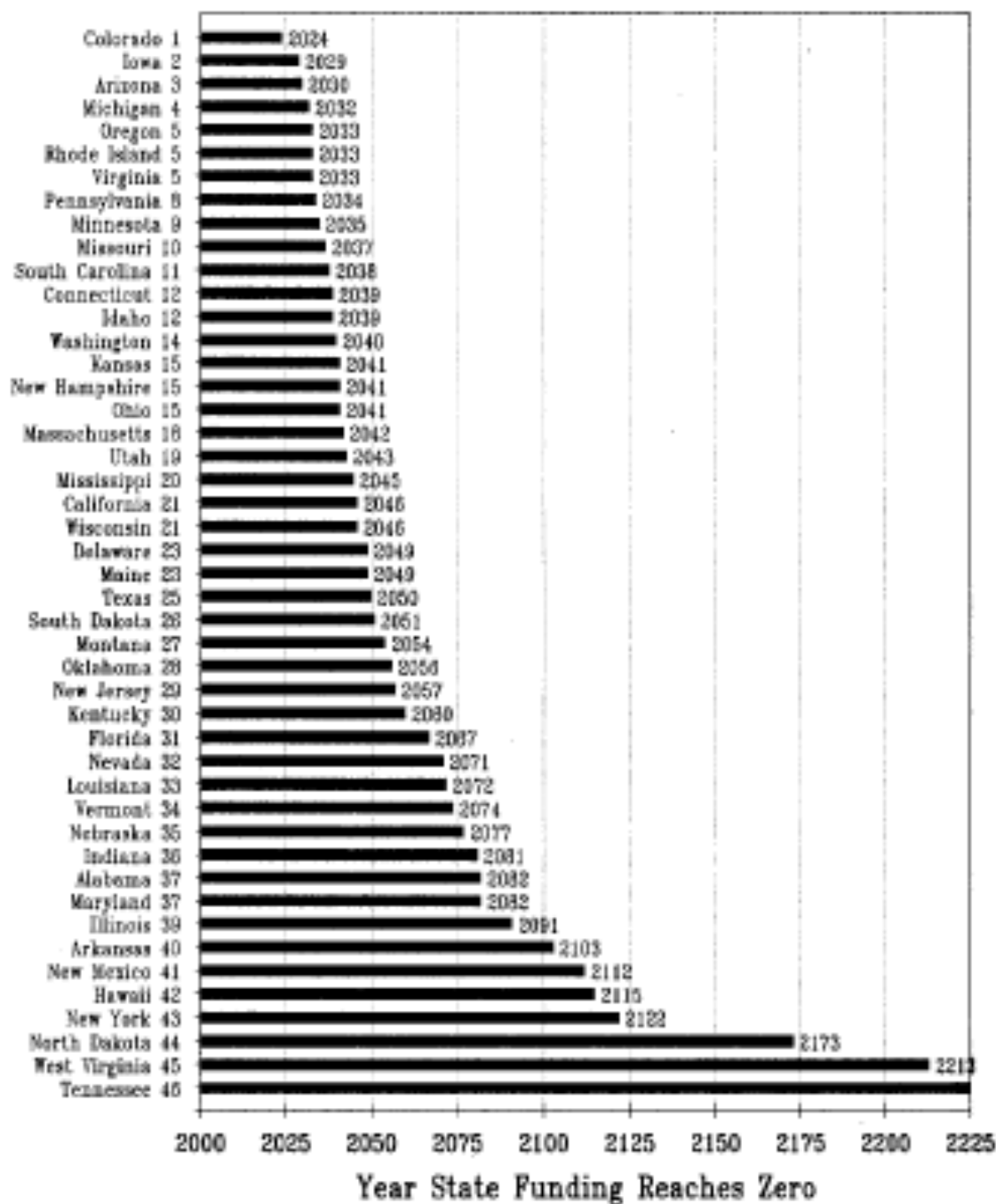
The data say NO! Profits of corporations are at an all-time high and the income share of the top 1% of households is at the highest level since 1928.

Source: Center for Budget and Policy Priorities  
[www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=2908](http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=2908)

### You can help

- Contact your state representatives about these concerns.
- Learn about ways higher education can get the funding it needs—right now! See [futureofhighered.org/workingpapers](http://futureofhighered.org/workingpapers)

## State Higher Education Investment Reaches Zero by Year Based on Projection of Trend from 2000 through 2013



Source: Post-Secondary Education Opportunity, February 2013  
[http://www.postsecondary.org/last12/248\\_213pg1\\_20.pdf](http://www.postsecondary.org/last12/248_213pg1_20.pdf)