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For Immediate Release...

Contact: Steve Crim
410-353-3116

Hogan Calls On O'Malley To Show Fiscal Restraint

On Wednesday, January 13th, 2010 the Maryland General Assembly will convene its 427th Session. It is the final session of Martin O'Malley's term and much of the focus will be on how to close the \$2 billion structural deficit he created.

“O'Malley increased spending by more than a billion in each of the last three legislative sessions. Before Maryland can get out of this recession, Martin O'Malley must stop the spending spree, stop raising taxes on job creators, and stop asking taxpayers for bailouts,” Hogan said.

“In typical O'Malley style, he will let the legislators do the heavy lifting. Then, he'll take the credit or pass the blame,” charged Hogan. “The state's Spending Affordability Committee has recommended a zero-growth budget. The big question will be whether or not Martin O'Malley will listen.”

“If history is the judge, the answer is no,” said Hogan. “First Martin O'Malley blew through a \$1 billion surplus we left him. Then, he increased taxes by over \$1.6 billion. And when that was not enough, he then took a multi-billion dollar federal bailout which he used to increase spending three times higher than the Spending Affordability Committee recommended.”

“Martin O'Malley is no leader on fiscal restraint and his record tells the real tale. Increased spending, record tax increases, and a failed fiscal policy has caused Maryland to lag behind 42 other states,” Hogan said.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Maryland is one of just 8 states that lost jobs in its most recent monthly report.

“Maryland's families are hurting. Our small businesses are leaving, or worse, closing altogether. We deserve better,” said Hogan. “It's time for someone to take the reigns of the state and lead it out of our current crisis with fiscal policies that encourage long term job growth and businesses to stay in Maryland.”

“During these tough economic times, Marylanders deserve a Governor who will roll up his sleeves and get to work addressing these tough issues,” Hogan concluded.

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