



December 16, 2009
For Immediate Release...

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Hogan: Time for O'Malley to Lead *Maryland Needs Leadership, Not Another Taxpayer Bailout*

Annapolis – Today, the Board of Revenue Estimates announced another \$77 million shortfall in the state budget. In response, Governor Martin O'Malley asked for another federal bailout.

“In April, O'Malley counted on a \$2.5 billion federal bailout to pay for his out of control spending,” said Hogan. “Less than a year later, he wants to go back to the federal trough.”

“Has this man no shame?” asked Hogan. “O'Malley's recklessness and lack of frugality would make even the most wasteful Wall Street tycoon blush. At least Wall Street is paying the money back. In Maryland, our hard earned tax dollars are just falling into O'Malley's black hole.”

To balance the FY 2010 budget, Martin O'Malley took advantage of \$2.5 billion in one time payments from the Federal Stimulus package. Maryland's FY 2010 budget was about \$1.2 billion higher than the FY 2009 budget.

“The federal government should have never been in the business of bailing out Wall Street and it shouldn't be in the business of bailing out reckless spending in the states either,” said Hogan. “Taxpayers shouldn't be on the hook to pay for Martin O'Malley's bloated budgets and reckless spending.”

“Martin O'Malley's spending addiction and lack of foresight has put Maryland in its current predicament,” Hogan charged. “And, it's Martin O'Malley's lack of leadership that will keep our state from clawing its way out of this recession.”

“Marylanders deserve better. It's time for a change,” Hogan concluded.

Larry Hogan has emerged as the leading challenger to O'Malley. He is a small business owner in Anne Arundel County who served in the Ehrlich Cabinet.

In his last run for office Hogan nearly defeated the House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer in what Hoyer called the toughest race of his entire political career.

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