

A portrait of Michael Seeger, the owner of Fife Flowers, in a floral shop. He is a middle-aged man with grey hair and a mustache, wearing a red button-down shirt, a dark tie with a red heart pattern, and a green apron. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. In the background, there are several large bouquets of flowers in white containers, including yellow, pink, and red blooms. A metal shopping cart is visible in the lower-left foreground.

**“For state government to sustain itself,  
it needs successful small businesses.  
But regulations and added costs are hurting us.  
If we want the private sector to grow,  
we need a better partnership.”**

Michael Seeger, Owner  
Fife Flowers

## Our State's Business Climate is Tough. But you can do something about it.

All across Washington state, employers and business owners are adjusting to the new economy, eagerly anticipating a recovery. They're doing their fair share by cutting costs, innovating — even retooling — to retain and create jobs.

Any hope of a sustained recovery rests with private sector job growth — a critical piece to solving our state's significant, recurring budget woes.

Lawmakers must take particular care not to jeopardize a restart of our economy by piling additional tax and regulatory costs on employers. Policymakers should instead be considering incentives that will help retain and recruit employers and jobs.

That's why AWB is encouraging members to contribute to a media campaign that will build greater support for employers, and job creation, across the state.

We can't control the ups and downs of our economy. But we can promote a more business-friendly climate in Washington state. Your contribution will help ensure your voice is heard clearly in Olympia.

**Whether \$50 or \$500, please give what you can. To contribute, visit [www.AWB.org](http://www.AWB.org) and click on "We Mean Business."**

 #wemeanbusiness



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