



**“There’s a growing disconnect
between state government and
how the real world works.
Increasing taxes and fees
on Washington businesses
and workers is hampering
our ability to survive.”**

Chris Foster, General Manager
Foster’s Furniture, Seattle

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

Chris Foster and thousands of business owners are doing everything they can to survive in this economy. They’re cutting costs, finding ways to innovate and getting by with less.

But sometimes it feels like the cards are stacked against them. Business taxes have jumped.

And because policymakers have failed to make critical, systemic changes to get spending under control, we face a massive \$4.5 billion budget deficit.

Lawmakers will be looking for ways to bridge the gap, including raising costs on employers—again. And that will jeopardize jobs.

We can’t control the ups and downs of the economy. But we can promote a more business-friendly climate in Washington state.

**To help ensure your voice is heard in Olympia, visit
www.AWB.org and click on “We Mean Business.”**



Association
of Washington
Business