

A close-up portrait of a man with short, dark hair and light-colored eyes, wearing a dark jacket. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a blurred, industrial-looking setting with vertical lines.

**“Sales are down, and costs are up.
And now our unemployment taxes
have almost tripled. The added costs impact
all our employees and are making it
very hard to stay competitive when
consumers expect more for less.”**

Eric Brulotte, Owner
Spokane Comfort Systems

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

Eric Brulotte 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.

Labor unions will continue to vigorously oppose spending cuts and support raising "substantial revenue," which means more taxes. And more costs on employers will jeopardize jobs.

That's why AWB is encouraging members to contribute to a media campaign that will provide an alternative voice and build greater support for employers across the state.

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

Whether \$50 or \$5,000, please give what you can. To contribute, visit www.AWB.org and click on "We Mean Business."



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