



NEWS RELEASE

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OXENDINE CALLS FOR STATE OFFICIALS TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE AND TAKE A PAY CUT

Atlanta – Saying that thousands of state employees could be furloughed shortly and other Georgians are losing their jobs daily, Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine called on Gov. Sonny Perdue, Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle and other constitutional officers today to take a voluntary salary reduction.

Oxendine, who has voluntarily taken a five percent pay cut since the fall of last year, said our state's leadership should set the standard in this economy.

"I've taken a five percent pay cut and I challenge the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and other Constitutional officers to go there with me," Oxendine said. "We may be in for one or two rough years with the state budget and now is the time to lead."

Oxendine said most state employees earn far less than the state's Constitutional officers, so these leaders should be willing to take a pay cut, as the rest of the state's employees may soon be told of mandatory furloughs to balance the budget.

"My family is cutting its budget like so many Georgia families," Oxendine said. "In these difficult economic times we all have to do our part. The least we can expect from the leaders of our state is to reduce their own taxpayer-funded incomes."

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