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Where the Money Comes From For Your Property Tax Reduction: Was It a Tax Shift?

FY1996 Budget Cuts and Savings \$19.2 million

Not a tax "shift" because money came from 1994 special session budget cuts and holding state spending under inflation.

FY1997 Budget Cuts, Savings and Revenue Increases \$15.8 million

Not a tax "shift" because money came from reducing state government spending and normal revenues.

Increasing state share of video lottery from 42% to 50% \$14.7 million

Not a tax "shift" because increasing the state's share of lottery revenues did not change payouts to players.

Increasing the tobacco tax \$6.8 million

Not a tax "shift" because people can choose not to smoke. (1st increase since 1985)

Repeal of Personal Property Tax Replacement Funding \$16.4 million

Not a tax "shift" because counties who had PTRR revenues still in their local budgets were given that amount.

Eliminating sales tax loopholes \$10.1 million

Yes, but it's a good tax "shift" because it decreased the burden on all property taxpayers and put a fair tax on those who were avoiding taxes through special exemptions.

TOTAL PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION \$83.0 million