

# JOURNAL

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## House of Representatives

**ADDRESS BY GOVERNOR MARK WHITE**

The strong-arm tactics of the Saudis haven't changed, OPEC manipulates the price of oil at will.

The tariff policies of the federal government haven't changed, it allows the devastation of a major American industry.

The resulting hardships for Texas workers and businesses — for 740,000 unemployed — haven't changed. Our people are persevering through the hardest time of their lives.

Our constitution spells out in no uncertain terms that we shall operate the state with a balanced budget.

Failure to bridge the gap right now will send the country the wrong message about Texas.

Our problems would only multiply.

Forestalling a revenue measure until next spring would almost surely invite the

It would irreparably damage the state's economy. It would be too much, and too late.

Lower bond ratings for state and local governments would be costly. Once your credit rating is lost it takes a long time to get it back.

We need to avoid all that, and now is the time to do it.

I understand the sentiment against a tax increase. None of us wants one. But the choice is between attacking education or raising a tax to pay for it."