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Gov. Patrick Plays Chicken with \$177 million in Local Aid

Governor Duval Patrick who, during his first campaign, promised local tax relief vetoed \$177 million in local tax aid on Friday. In a high stakes game of chicken with the legislature the Governor diverted local lottery funds from cities and towns to balance the state budget. If Patrick's veto stands cities and towns could face unanticipated and devastating cuts.

House Speaker Robert Deleo has pledged to restore Patrick's local aid cuts. The leadership of the legislature could override the Governors cuts as early as late July.

Patrick's moves could cause communities like Carver to cut vital services or increase the regressive property taxes.

In typical liberal fashion Patrick seeks to cover his tracks by stating that "I proposed an increase in the income tax on the most fortunate as the central source of that new revenue." Unfortunately the biggest problem with liberals like Patrick is that they eventually run out of everyone else's money and start taxing us. This is what you get when you elect politicians interested in spending without regard to the impacts to taxpayers. It's also what you get from a legislature seriously lacking two party balance.

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