

**COSTELLO MEDIA RELEASE**

**Contact: Liz McNeill**

**Phone: 405-521-6102**

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**COSTELLO REJECTS ELECTED OFFICIALS PAY HIKE – CALLS FOR  
10 YEAR MORATORIUM**

OKLAHOMA CITY – Labor Commissioner Mark Costello calls upon state legislators to freeze elected officials salaries at current levels and impose a 10 year moratorium on future increases.

Costello said, “Now is the time to seek legislative action to freeze elected officials pay for the next 10 years. It’s an affront to taxpayers to increase elected officials pay at a time when households and businesses are burdened by high taxes and excessive regulations. No politician campaigned for office advocating a pay increase for himself. The only salary increase the legislature should consider is to eliminate the state income tax, thereby providing all taxpayers a salary increase.”

Costello returned 15% (\$15,750) of his salary to the state and currently refuses a state car and drives to all events at his own expense. “This is the type of action taxpayers expected when they spoke in November 2010, not a backdoor pay increase for politicians in 2012,” concluded Costello.