Director's Message - Winter 2010

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We are beginning the Legislative Session this week, and budget issues are of high concern. Our department took some sizable cuts last year, and we are pleased that the Governor is predicting better times ahead.

Under the Governor's budget, DHS will need to cut another $3 million in operating expenses before July 1 of this year, but after that the Governor's economists see that the Utah economy is picking up. Our department has put a hiring freeze in place and we are asking all employees to help conserve resources. Print on both sides of your paper. Carpool with state vehicles. Teleconference where you can. You are creative and resourceful and I know we can keep our costs down.

The focus of the Legislative session will be on avoiding more cuts to programs. If we can all stay positive and keep essential services in place, I believe we will be looking at a brighter picture next year. I will give you updates on the DHS home page during the Legislative session, so check back!