



2026 Legislative Session Overview

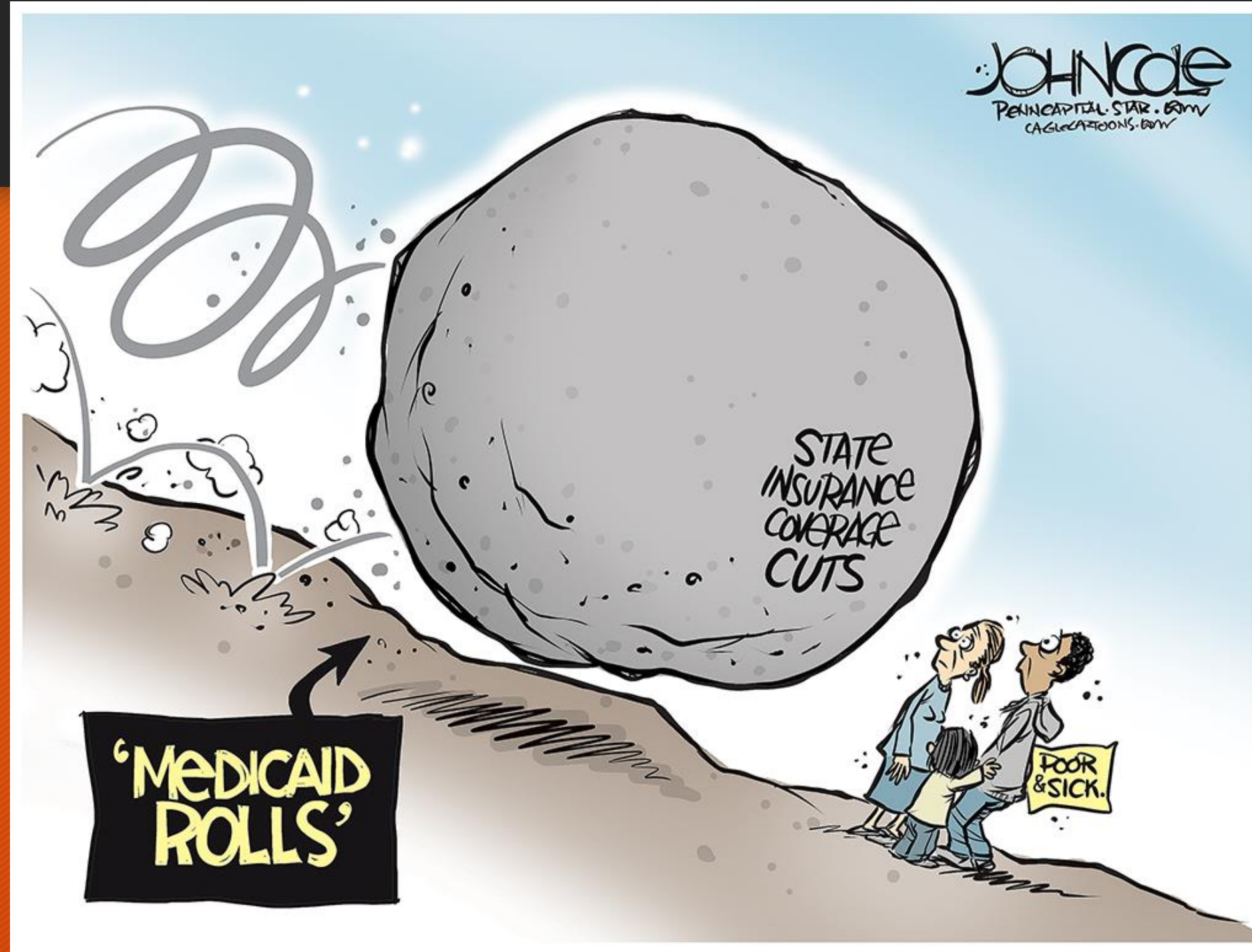
The background of the slide features a warm orange-to-red gradient. In the center, there is a large, semi-transparent magnifying glass. Inside the lens of the magnifying glass is a large, bold question mark. Surrounding the magnifying glass and scattered across the background are numerous smaller, lighter-colored question marks of varying sizes, creating a sense of inquiry and anticipation.

What is Anticipated

Background

- Federal
 - Medicaid cuts
 - Snap Cuts
 - Department of Education shut down
 - Threats to Section 8 housing
 - Threats to disability infrastructure
 - Threats to Social Security





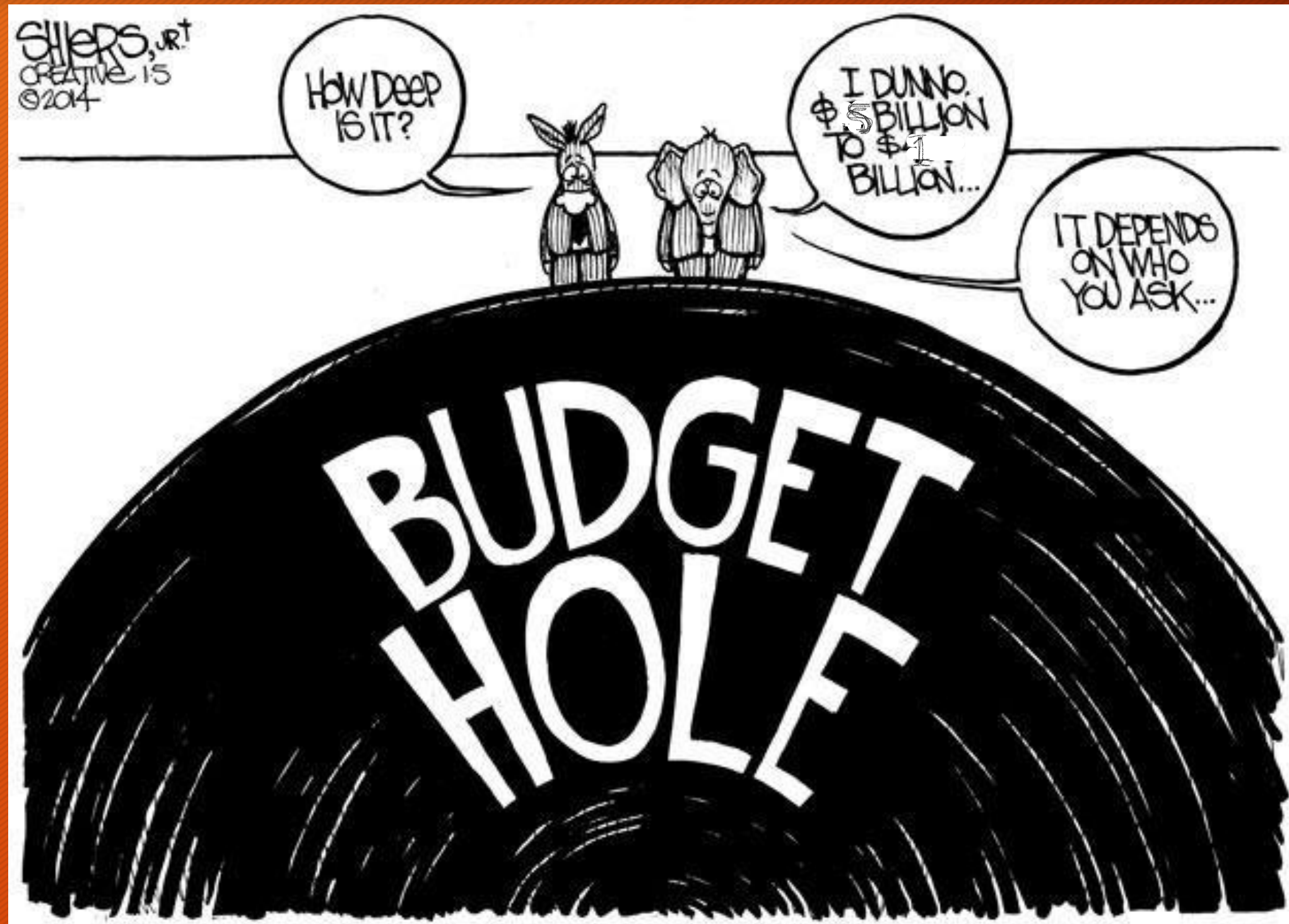
Cost Shifts to the States

What Legislators are Facing

- Inflation is up
- Revenue is down
- New SNAP costs
- Loss of Medicaid funding
- Growing caseloads
- Employment is cooling



The Dilemma



How Much is a Billion?

- If someone works 40 hours a week at the WA Minimum Wage (\$17.13 in 2026)
- It would take **28 years and 7 months** to make a million dollars
- It would take **28,016 years** to make a billion dollars
- It would take over **28 million years** to make a trillion dollars



- Make Cuts



- Raise taxes



Options

Protect Critical Services



Maintain
Eligibility
for DD
Services

Preserve
Personal
Care
Hours

Keep
Waiver
Services
Intact

Sustain
Provider
Rates

Governor's Budget

- <https://arcwa.org/advocacy/bill-tracker/>



Bills of Interest

<https://arcwa.org/advocacy/bill-tracker/>



Messaging



Protect
Disability Services



Protect
Community Living



Protect
Disability Rights

What's Next?

- Session begins January 12th
- First policy Committee cutoff is February 4th
- House & Senate will present their budgets
- Short Session- ends March 12th



What You Can Do

- Join us for Advocacy Days
- Sign up for alerts <https://arcwa.org/action-center/>
- Tell your story



Thank you!



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