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Take real look at Kasich proposals: editorial

Give the man credit.

He's thinking. He's studying.

He's got ideas.

Gov. John Kasich's proposals this week to tinker with state policy on energy, education, health care and taxes follow the fairly unusual "mid-biennium review" of the state's budget.

State Budget Director Tim Keen said Kasich got in the habit of such look-sees when he was chairman of the U.S. House Budget Committee in the 1980s. Congress works with annual budgets. The State of Ohio has a two-year budget.

But, as Kasich is suggesting, that's no reason to sit still and wait until next year for the regular state budget fight.

No, Kasich has proposed some big changes for the state, and, as he probably should expect by now, has heard a lot about them from all corners.

Chief among the governor's proposals is a hike in the tax assessed on oil and gas drillers who work wells throughout the state. That increase in income would then allow the state to cut the income tax, which would leave more money in residents' pockets.

Editorial continued here: <http://www.news-herald.com/articles/2012/03/18/opinion/nh5241349.txt?viewmode=fullstory>

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