

TO:

Organizations Opposed to Senate Bill 76

FROM:

Senate Bill 76 Sponsors

DATE:

March 4, 2016

SUBJECT:

Invitation to discuss "sustainable and proven strategies" for local tax reform

Republicans and Democrats don't always see eye to eye on important state issues. However, a diverse and bipartisan coalition of lawmakers agree that Senate Bill 76 is the right plan to fix the school property tax system in Pennsylvania.

We urge you to understand the frustration of our constituents who, after decades of being promised real tax reform, have experienced constant roadblocks resulting in no action being taken.

In your memorandum addressed to Senators on November 16, 2015 you collectively state your united opposition to the bipartisan efforts to pass Senate Bill 76 and you affirm, "We recognize that school property taxes are a genuine concern for many across the Commonwealth, and we will continue to offer our expertise and assistance to develop a responsible approach to address concerns where it is most needed, using sustainable and proven strategies."

We would like to take you up on your offer -

We are inviting you to a roundtable discussion with leaders of the Pennsylvania Coalition of Taxpayer Associations, a statewide grassroots coalition that developed Senate Bill 76, and sponsors of Senate Bill 76.

We ask you to come to the meeting prepared to discuss your proposals regarding school property taxes.

Many of our constituents cannot understand why Senate Bill 76 cannot pass the Senate. It is our hope that this meeting will provide an opportunity for a meaningful discussion leading to the successful implementation of local tax reform.

The event will take place on Monday, March 21, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. in Room 60 of the East Wing.

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We look forward to our discussion on how to best address this key issue.

Sincerely,

DAVID G. ARGALL

State Senator 29th District

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MIKE FOLMER

State Senator 48th District

Judith Q. Ochwan. JUDY SCHWANK

State Senator 11th District

JOHN YUDICHAK

State Senator 14th District

MARIO SCAVELLO

State Senator 40th District

SCOTT WAGNER

State Senator 28th District

LISA BOSCOLA

State Senator 18th District

ANDY DINNIMAN

State Senator 19th District

This memorandum is being sent to the following organizations:

Alliance for Philadelphia Public Schools

Allies for Children

American Federation of Teachers, Pennsylvania

American Institute of Architects Pennsylvania

Central Pennsylvania Food Bank

Chester County Food Bank

Coalition Against Hunger

Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley

Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County

Education Law Center of Pennsylvania

Education Voters of Pennsylvania

Feeding Pennsylvania

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

Hunger-Free Pennsylvania

Insurance Agents & Brokers of Pennsylvania

Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania

Just Harvest: A Center for Action Against Hunger

Keystone Progress

Keystone State Education Coalition

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania

Manufacturer and Business Association

Mid-Atlantic Community Papers Association

NAACP Pennsylvania State Conference

National Federation of Independent Business

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Pennsylvania Association for Justice

Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators

Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials

Pennsylvania Bankers Association

Pennsylvania Bar Association

Pennsylvania Budget and Policy Center

Pennsylvania Business Council

Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry

Pennsylvania Coalition to End Homelessness

Pennsylvania Council of Churches

Pennsylvania Credit Union Association

Pennsylvania Defense Institute

Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association

Pennsylvania Independent Automobile Dealers Association

Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association

Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association

Pennsylvania Principals Association

Pennsylvania Restaurant and Lodging Association

Pennsylvania Retailers' Association

Pennsylvania School Boards Association

Philadelphia Bar Association

Philadelphia Federation of Teachers

POWER (Philadelphians Organized to Witness Empower and Rebuild)

Public Citizens for Children and Youth

The Public Interest Law Center