

New Jersey, Burzichelli and You - - Not a Good Match

Burzichelli/Riley agreed, "If you don't like the budget, vote us out." You should consider that suggestion. Here is a sample of what they've done to you. New Jersey's median household income declined by \$7,214 between 2006 and 2008, the largest dollar decrease in the nation, according to newly released US Census Bureau statistics. This represents a 10.1% decline in median income (as opposed to Pennsylvania which had a 1.1% decline). True to form, Burzichelli, your elected representative, had the gall to raise taxes by one billion dollars.

New Jersey taxpayers already pay \$7,000 a year on average in property taxes, or about twice the national average. Under the current budget just passed by our elected representatives, the property tax rebate program, which can put up to \$1000 back into homeowners' pockets, will be limited to households earning less than \$75,000. Last year the threshold was \$150,000 and two years ago it was \$250,000. About 1 million homeowners will no longer get rebates because of John Burzichelli and these elected officials.

The budget just passed also increases the top personal income tax rate to 10.75%, one of the highest in the nation. Two thirds of small businesses pay this tax rate. Since 2002, New Jersey has raised taxes on each resident by \$2,601 -- the highest in the nation. Taxpayers in this state spent 211 days a year working to cover the cost of government thanks to Mr. Burzichelli. New Jersey has the highest state and local tax burden, the second highest business tax burden (the current budget extends the 4% corporate tax surcharge), and the highest property tax burden per capita. The budget even raised taxes on health insurance premiums and Burzichelli voted to tax medical facilities 3% of gross revenues!!! He is part of the reason that many can't afford healthcare.

In the end what does this accomplish? New Jersey has suffered a massive exodus of residents every year for the past 10 years. The state has lost 335,000 people since 1997 -- one of the highest outflows in the nation. The top destination for these Garden State exiles is low tax Pennsylvania and Florida and along with them 13 billion dollars in income and wealth. The death spiral of ever increasing taxes causes taxpayers to flee and businesses to relocate, thereby destroying jobs.

Assemblyman Greenwald, D-Camden, and Burzichelli D-Gloucester arrogantly challenge voters, "If you don't like the budget, vote us out." That is one of the better suggestions I've heard coming from our elected representatives. **Grant their wish; vote them out. TAXPAYER ALERT TO THE GARDEN STATE POLITICOS: "WE ARE NO LONGER YOUR ATM MACHINE! We are coming to the polls to get rid of you."**

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