

Mike Stack

SUMMER 2012
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PROPERTY TAXES

It's Time To Get Tougher
On Delinquent Taxpayers



HELPING VETERANS

Veterans' Benefits
Coordinator now available

STANDING UP FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS

With continued cuts in education,
Sen. Mike Stack shows Governor
"Who's the Boss."

INSIDE:

- Economic Investments
Help Make American
Dream a Reality
- Community Wins With
Liddonfield Development

Education Cuts Squander Opportunities



The 2012-13 newly enacted state budget hurts working Pennsylvanians while giving generous tax breaks to foreign corporations.

If we are going to give billions in tax breaks to Royal Dutch Shell and allow outsourcing of Pennsylvania jobs, we can do a lot better for our greatest resources — the citizens of Pennsylvania. We should invest in our classrooms and universities to help our children succeed and become successful entrepreneurs, public servants, and doctors.

Instead, the 2012-13 budget takes another major step backwards. Basic education and higher education, which

are still reeling from last year's deep budget cuts, were level funded in the latest spending plan. This level funding has forced many school districts to raise property taxes, cut over 14,000 teachers, increase class sizes, and fuel higher education tuition spikes.

There is a saying that budgets are a statement of priorities. Gov. Corbett's latest budget tells us Pennsylvania working families are not his priority. The governor is wrong. I care about working families, and will not support budgets that force local governments to raise property taxes, families to pay higher college tuitions, counties to slam the door on our most vulnerable citizens, and give our children a poor education. We can and must do better. ■

This budget makes harsh cuts to services that help our most vulnerable citizens. Mental health and homeless assistance budget cuts will result in more people living on the streets, less productive citizens, and more welfare spending.

—SEN. MIKE STACK

Community Wins with Liddonfield Development

Sen. Stack and City Councilman Bobby Henon talk with President Sister Francesca Onley after the announcement that the former PHA Liddonfield Site will be sold to Holy Family University. Holy Family will develop dorms, athletic fields, retail, and senior citizen housing. This project could create 200-500 construction and/or permanent jobs.





Mike Stack

IN MEMORY OF OFFICER ROBERT HAYES

Sen. Stack attended the Bustleton Bengals mural dedication to the memory of Officer Robert Hayes. Sen. Stack is shown here with Officer Hayes' wife JoAnn and their grandson.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

Sen. Stack talks with Holocaust survivor Sam Rosen during the Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony held at the State Capitol. Sam is joined by fellow survivor Kurt Moses.



SERVING
the
5th
District



HONORING DR. SUESS

Sen. Stack reads to school children at A. L. Fitzpatrick Elementary during Read Across America, a day designed to honor the memory of Dr. Seuss.

*The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go. —Dr. Seuss*

\$500,000 CHECK PRESENTATION

Sen. Stack joins Sen. Larry Farnese in awarding the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia (JFGP) \$500,000. Joining the senators are JFGP President Sherrie Savett and JFGP CEO Ira M. Schwartz.



Economic Investments Help Make American Dream a Reality



SEN. STACK DISCUSSES

the need for infrastructure funding to the American Society of Civil Engineers at Drexel University in May.

Family sustaining jobs help people achieve the American Dream of buying a home and sending their kids to college. I am working to ensure that family sustaining jobs are created and sustained in the 5th Senate District.

The Aria Health-Torresdale Hospital will expand its emergency room, bed tower and garage to accommodate growing demand. This project will create 200 new jobs. I secured \$3 million in state funding for the project.

Another critical project for the Philadelphia region is the Delaware River deepening. It will expand international trade and create jobs. The state is providing over \$40 million for this deepening.

This investment will provide benefits to Northeast Philadelphia's Tioga Marine Terminal and other port facilities. Deepening the river is estimated to create 75,000 direct and indirect jobs for dock workers, truck drivers, warehouse and logistics workers.

In addition to our ports, our economy also depends on transportation infrastructure. Pennsylvania's highways and bridges are in dire shape, and for the sake of safety and our economy, we need to find a funding solution to repair and maintain our roads and bridges.

Over 6,000 bridges are in hazardous condition and the Society of Civil Engineers gives us a D- for the state of our roads and bridges. Estimates show that for every \$1 billion we invest in transportation funding, up to 30,000 jobs are created.

Despite these statistics, the governor continues to drag his feet. He is playing a dangerous game with motorist and pedestrian safety, and making repairs more expensive.

We can't wait any longer for the governor to solve this crisis. I am working to convene a Special Session to consider transportation infrastructure improvement and funding. Our economy and our motorists deserve a solid funding plan to fix and maintain our highways and bridges. ■

Sen. Stack presents a check to Aria Health-Torresdale for \$3 million Emergency Department Expansion. (L to R) Robert Truitt, Chairman of Aria Health Board of Directors, Sen. Tommy Tomlinson (R - Bucks), Sen. Stack, Kathleen Kinslow, CEO of Aria Health.



Standing Up for Property Owners

The city's plan to overhaul the property tax assessment system could mean bigger property tax bills for Northeast Philadelphia homeowners. However, the city can take steps right now to relieve some of the property assessment mess and bring in much needed revenue by going after the delinquent taxpayers who have dodged payments for too long.

Delinquent taxpayers owe the city over \$515 million. It's time to put pressure on the owners who dodge their tax responsibilities and make them pay. Additionally, local and state officials should continue to find ways to provide relief from higher property taxes.

City property owners may apply for property tax relief through the homestead exemption, which was authorized through a recent state law. The homestead exemption may

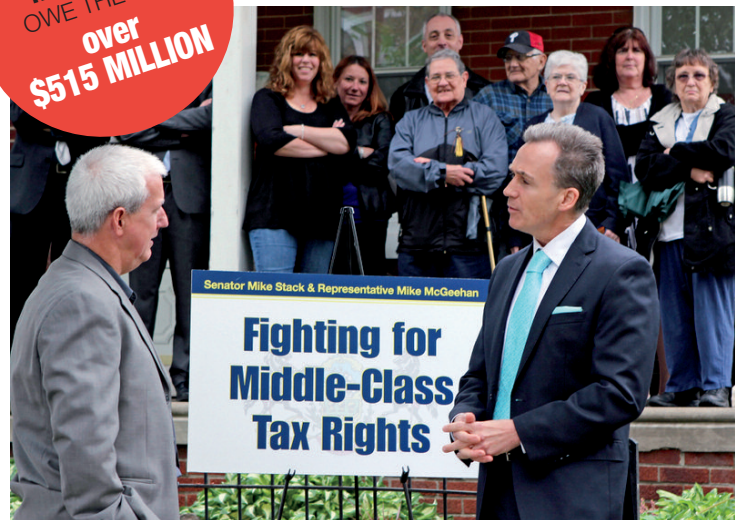
reduce real estate tax bills after the city's property reassessment. My staff and I are happy to assist you through this process so please contact us.

Additionally, I have authored legislation (Senate Bill 1505) that would prohibit the City of Philadelphia from increasing property taxes if the city's property tax collection rate is less than 95 percent. The bill also allows Philadelphia home-owning senior citizens and longtime homeowners with household incomes of \$60,000 or less, the option to defer the payment of property tax increases until they sell their house.

Philadelphia homeowners dealt with three property tax increases over the last three years. The city shouldn't lean on those citizens for additional property tax revenues when others owe hundreds of millions of dollars in delinquent taxes. It's time the city improves their property tax collection rate and gets tough with individuals who refuse to pay their taxes. ■

**DELINQUENT
TAXPAYERS
OWE THE CITY
over
\$515 MILLION**

**Sen. Stack and Rep. Mike McGeehan
talk to homeowners about delinquent
property taxes.**



Veterans' Services Coordinator Available at Bustleton Office



A veterans' services coordinator is now available at my district office at 8016 Bustleton Ave. to assist former service men and women.

Joseph Buckley, a retired Marine with extensive veteran outreach experience, will be available by appointment only to help veterans and their families with various issues, including housing for homeless vets, access to medical services, obtaining deceased vets' medals for surviving families and more. To make an appointment, call 215-695-1020.

Buckley is a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Veterans, and the Marine Corps Association. He also currently serves as Assistant Department Service Officer for the VA Regional Service Office in Philadelphia and Coatesville. ■

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