

May 11, 2015

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RE: Public Hearing – Proposed Tax Increases

Dear Republican Representatives and Senators,

I write to you today in firm opposition to any and all tax increases and speak in particular to those proposed increases that have not had a public hearing.

First, let me say that the good, hardworking people of Connecticut do not wish to become Detroit. It is unconscionable that in our present climate the Democrats, led by Gov. Malloy are on the fast track to make us just that.

Next, it is time for a history lesson. To quote our own Declaration of Independence as one of the reasons we separated:

*'...For imposing taxes on us without our consent...'*

The path the democrats are on certainly is in violation of our representative form of government and more closely resembles a self-absorbed monarchy.

People and business that are able, flee our state and there is a ripple affect. While the rest of the nation slowly began its ascent out of the most recent depression (yes, depression) we boast being the only state to experience negative GDP in 2012. It is laughable to believe that somehow, raising taxes is going to spur economic growth. It will have the opposite affect. How will Connecticut survive when it no longer has people to tax? As Margaret Thatcher once said of socialism:

*'Eventually, you run out of other people's money...'*

These taxes would place additional administrative costs on businesses with those costs being passed on to the consumer in addition to the added tax

An increase to the marginal income tax and capital gains tax will only hasten the departure of those affected, how will the gap then be filled?

Additional taxes will force more budget conscious individuals to forgo services wherever possible.

And some personal favorites:

*Tax on translation and interpretation services*

Will the state pay itself when it brings in sign language interpreters for the hearing impaired during public service announcements or when the governor speaks?

*Tax on veterinary services*

What will this do to rescue organizations?

Families already struggling will be forced to euthanize or abandon pets as will seniors on fixed incomes

What of service animals

If a veterinary tax is imposed a healthcare tax is sure to follow

It is time the state of Connecticut began to practice fiscal responsibility and stop the financial rape of its citizens. I call on every member of the CGA to halt all tax increases and rein in spending. It is about time state government learned the meaning of sacrifice, funding only what is truly necessary and abandoning the 'nice to haves'.

Linda F. Czaplinski