

2008 Regular Session - Update #1 - January 17, 2008

Here we are back in Annapolis, and taxes are still on everybody's mind. Please allow me to give you the inside scoop on where the tax problem really begins and how you can participate to turn this problem around.

The key word is THE BUDGET.

In my five years here I have voted in favor of the budget only one time, and that budget was unanimously passed by the General Assembly. Since then I have voted against every budget, and I have spoken against the budgets on the floor of the House. Last year I said, "If you vote for this budget, you are voting for higher taxes next year." Well, my prediction was correct. You constantly hear, "We have a spending problem." THE BUDGET is the spending problem.

You may ask why I am disappointed with the budget process. When I look for leadership on this issue, the House Minority Leader Anthony O'Donnell and the Minority Whip Christopher Shank have both repeatedly voted for these bloated budgets, along with all the Democrats and most of the Republicans.

I would now like to provide you with the names of the senators and delegates who voted against last year's budget -- it is by far the shorter list. In the House, Delegates Dwyer, Impallaria, King, McDonough, and Miller (all Republicans) voted nay. In the Senate, Senators Greenip, Harris, Hooper, Kittleman, Mooney, Simonaire, and Stoltzfus (all Republicans) voted nay.

Governor O'Malley now plans to raise taxes again -- this is in addition to the raises from the Special Session -- and to increase spending (i.e., THE BUDGET). So, I need your help -- to contact each and every elected official, demanding that they not only vote against more taxes, but also reject the Budget, unless it has zero spending increases. And to especially target the Republican leadership in the House and the Senate -- all of whom have voted for the bloated budgets.

Here is a simple analogy -- passing these budgets is like ordering an expensive meal at a restaurant, eating it, then refusing to pay the bill when it's presented. It's time to tell the fat cats to push away from the table and find a cheaper place to eat -- one that we can all afford.

If you would like information on how to contact these folks, reply back and we'll send it out to you.

P. S. Kool-Aid drinkers need not reply.

Rick Impallaria
Delegate, District 7