



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday, October 13, 2009  
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**\*\*\* NOTE: THIS IS A REVISED VERSION OF INITIAL RELEASE ON 10/7/09 WHICH INADVERTANTLY OMITTED THREE LEGISLATORS WHO IN FACT QUALIFY AS TAXPAYER CHAMPIONS WITH PERFECT SCORES.**

**THE THREE ADDITIONS ARE NOTED IN BOLD AND UNDERLINE. NJTA APOLOGIES FOR THE OVERSIGHT TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED.**

## **New Jersey Taxpayers Alliance Unveils List of 46 “Taxpayer Champions” in the NJ Legislature**

*New Jersey Taxpayers Alliance, dedicated to restoring fiscal responsibility in New Jersey*

*Alliance of individual and corporate taxpayers unveils scorecard rating legislators’ taxpayer friendliness*

Trenton, New Jersey – The New Jersey Taxpayers Alliance (NJTA) today unveiled a list of 43 legislators who were named “Taxpayer Champions” based on their votes on bills key to New Jersey’s individual and corporate taxpayers. The Alliance honored the legislators after an analysis of voting records on bills deemed crucial to the taxpayer community during the 213<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

The Tax Foundation recently reported that New Jersey has the nation’s worst business tax climate and the highest state-local tax burden for individuals. During the last two years, legislators had the opportunity to either improve that situation through changes to the corporate tax code and public employee benefit system, or increase the tax burden through bills such as an income tax hike or paid leave mandate. The Alliance only considered bills that were voted on by at least one full chamber of the legislature, giving each member an equal opportunity to vote in the interest of taxpayers.

“While legislators may be quick to point to reasons a particular tax was increased, the reality is that taxes go up because legislators want them to,” said NJTA Chairman Jerry Cantrell. “In all of New Jersey there are 120 men and women who have a direct vote on whether taxes on income, profits or life’s pleasures will increase or decrease. Today’s announcement of the Taxpayer Champions is designed to help all New Jerseyans have a better understanding as to who fights for their interests in Trenton.”

A selection committee of Alliance members determined which bills would be considered for the analysis. Each vote on final passage was weighed equally, and Senators receiving an 85 and Assembly members scoring at

least a 75 were designated as Taxpayer Champions. In total, there were nine votes counted for members of the General Assembly and ten for state Senators.

The list of recipients is:

New Jersey Senate Taxpayer Champions

Diane Allen (R-7)  
Christopher Batemen (R-16)  
Jennifer Beck (R-12)  
**Anthony Bucco (R-25)**  
Gerald Cardinale (R-39)  
Christopher Connors (R-9)  
Philip Haines (R-8)  
Sean Kean (R-11)  
Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21)  
Joseph Kyrillos (R-13)  
Marcia Karrow (R-23)  
Steve Oroho (R-24)  
Kevin O'Toole (R-40)  
Joseph Pennacchio (R-26)  
Robert Singer (R-30)  
Jeff Van Drew (D-1)

New Jersey General Assembly Taxpayer Champions

Dawn Addiego (R-8)  
Nelson Albano (D-1)  
John Amodeo (R-2)  
Mary Pat Angelini (R-11)  
Peter Biondi (R-16)  
John Bramnick (R-21)  
Michael Patrick Carroll (R-25)  
Caroline Casagrande (R-12)  
Gary Chiusano (R-24)  
Denise Coyle (R-16)  
Ronald Dancer (R-30)  
Alex DeCroce (R-26)  
Michael Doherty (R-23)  
Amy Handlin (R-13)  
James Holzpfel (R-10)  
**Joseph Malone (R-30)**  
**Alison McHose (R-24)**  
Matthew Milam (D-1)  
Declan O'Scanlon (R-12)  
Vincent Polistina (R-2)  
David Rible (R-11)  
John Rooney (R-39)  
Scott Rudder (R-8)  
Scott Rumana (R-40)

Brian Rumpf (R-9)  
David Russo (R-40)  
Sam Thompson (R-13)  
Charlotte Vandervalk (R-39)  
Jay Webber (R-26)  
David Wolfe (R-10)

### **About the New Jersey Taxpayers Alliance**

Under the leadership of the New Jersey Taxpayers Association (NJTA), New Jersey civic and business leaders have formed the New Jersey Taxpayers Alliance, a non-partisan, grass-roots organization dedicated to achieving real and sustainable tax reform in New Jersey. Comprised primarily of civic, business and professional associations, the Alliance's mission is to educate and inform New Jersey taxpayers about sound fiscal policy; provide state policymakers with objective, non-partisan research about the impact of specific tax, regulatory and spending policies; and advocate for the adoption of rational public fiscal policy as it relates to individuals, non-profit organizations, small businesses and corporations.

### **About the New Jersey Taxpayers Association**

The New Jersey Taxpayers' Association is a statewide grass roots organization dedicated to achieving real and sustainable tax reform in New Jersey. The organization's efforts are aimed at improving the quality of life in New Jersey, for all its citizens, by holding our elected officials and administrators personally accountable for sound fiscal management of governmental institutions, organizations and precious tax dollars. The NJTA is committed to Excellence in Government while ensuring that elected officials are fulfilling their fiduciary responsibilities to the state and local institutions and the citizenry at large.

For more information, or to become a member of NJTA, please visit our website(s) [www.njtaxes.org](http://www.njtaxes.org)/[www.njtaxalliance.org](http://www.njtaxalliance.org) or contact Jerry Cantrell [jcantrell@njtaxes.org](mailto:jcantrell@njtaxes.org).