



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Jersey Taxpayers Alliance Names 64 Legislators as “Taxpayer Champions”

Voting records on pro-taxpayer reform measures show this legislative session stronger for taxpayers than recent past

Trenton, New Jersey – The New Jersey Taxpayers Alliance (NJTA) today named 63 legislators “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 214th Legislature.

New Jerseyans continue to shoulder the nation’s heaviest state-local tax burden, according to the Tax Foundation. However, the last two years presented legislators with opportunities to make fundamental changes to New Jersey’s tax and spending policies.

“The last two years have been marked by significant progress on behalf of taxpayers,” said NJTA Chairman Jerry Cantrell. “A property-tax cap, pension and benefit reform package, and changes to outdated arbitration rules were all significant votes taken under intense political pressure. 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 was weighed equally, and legislators voting with the NJTA position on at least 70% of votes were designated as Taxpayer Champions. The 63 Taxpayer Champions represents an increase of 20 from the 2009 scorecard.

“The high number of Taxpayer Champions this year is reflective of the fact taxpayers fared much better during the past two years than from 2007-2009. Some bad habits, such as reflexive urge to raise taxes on high-wage earners, stuck around. I hope that the Legislature continues its progress and that in two years we are awarding even more ‘Champion’ awards.” Cantrell concluded.

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The 2011 New Jersey Taxpayer Alliance Taxpayer Champions are:

General Assembly

John Amodeo (R-2)	Joseph Malone (R-30)
Mary Pat Angelini (R-11)	Alison McHose (R-24)
Jon Bramnick (R-21)	Matthew Milam (D-1)
Anthony Bucco (R-25)	Paul Moriarty (D-4)
John Burzichelli (D-3)	Nancy Munoz (R-21)
Michael Patrick Carroll (R-25)	Sheila Oliver (D-34)
Caroline Casagrande (R-12)	Declan O'Scanlon (R-12)
Gary Chiusano (R-24)	Eric Peterson (R-23)
Herb Conaway (D-7)	Vincent Polistina (R-2)
Jack Connors (D-7)	David Rible (R-11)
Albert Coutinho (D-29)	Celeste Riley (D-3)
Denise Coyle (R-16)	Scott Rudder (R-8)
Ronald Dancer (R-30)	Scott Rumana (R-40)
Alex DeCroce (R-26)	Brian Rumpf (R-9)
Dominick DiCicco (R-4)	David Russo (R-40)
John DiMaio (R-23)	Robert Schroeder (R-39)
Angel Fuentes (D-5)	Grace Spencer (D-29)
DiAnne Gove (R-9)	Sam Thompson (R-13)
Louis Greenwald (D-6)	Charlotte Vandervalk (R-39)
Amy Handlin (R-13)	Jay Webber (R-26)
James Holzapfel (R-10)	Gilbert Wilson (D-5)
Pamela Lampitt (D-6)	David Wolfe (R-10)

Senate

Dawn Marie Addiego (R-8)	Sean Kean (R-11)
Diane Allen (R-7)	Tom Kean, Jr. (R-21)
Christopher Bateman (R-16)	Joseph Kyrillos (R-13)
James Beach (D-6)	Donald Norcross (D-5)
Jennifer Beck (R-12)	Steven Oroho (R-24)
Anthony Bucco (R-25)	Kevin O'Toole (R-40)
Gerald Cardinale (R-39)	Joseph Pennacchio (R-26)
Andrew Ciesla (R-10)	Robert Singer (R-30)
Christopher Connors (R-9)	Brian Stack (D-33)
Michael Doherty (R-23)	Steve Sweeney (D-3)

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