

I'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU A LETTER RECEIVED BY CONGRESSMAN CLARENCE J. BROWN, JR. FROM A VERY CREATIVE CONSTITUENT WHO WAS TIRED OF THE HIGH AND EVER INCREASING COST OF GOVERNMENT.

THE VOTER WROTE:

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE A DEPENDENT RELATIVE WHO HAS VERY LITTLE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY. HE MEANS WELL, BUT HE KEEPS BUYING PRESENTS FOR MY PARENTS AND ME, CHARGING THEM TO OUR ACCOUNT!

WHEN HE SEES SOMETHING THAT HE THINKS WE MIGHT NEED, HE BUYS IT AND WE HAVE TO PAY. THESE THINGS ARE RARELY WHAT WE'D HAVE BOUGHT OURSELVES. BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WORK FOR A LIVING, MONEY DOESN'T MEAN MUCH TO HIM. HE IS GENEROUS TO THE POOR AND NEEDY WITH MY MONEY AND GIVES TO THE UNWORTHY, TOO.

WE JUST RECEIVED A BILL FOR HIS LAST SPENDING SPREE, AND IT GIVES ME A SICK, HOPELESS FEELING. HOW MUCH BETTER THINGS WOULD BE IF WE COULD SPEND OUR OWN MONEY FOR THE THINGS WE WANT!

HE WON'T LISTEN TO ME, BUT HE WILL LISTEN TO YOU. PLEASE,

PLEASE USE YOUR INFLUENCE TO CUT THE SPENDING OF MY (Pause)  
UNCLE SAM.

YES, RELATIONS CAN BE A PROBLEM ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S THE  
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HIGHER TAXES AND THE COST OF GOVERNMENT.

IN PENNSYLVANIA INCREASING TAXES ARE TIED TO BALLOONING  
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

WITH THE 1970 DECADE ONE-HALF OVER THE PRESENT  
ADMINISTRATION IN HARRISBURG IS ON ITS WAY TO SETTING ALL TIME  
RECORDS IN SPENDING OUR MONEY. ALREADY, GOVERNOR SHAPP'S  
ADMINISTRATION HAS SPENT MORE MONEY THAN DID ALL OTHER  
PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNORS SINCE WORLD WAR TWO COMBINED. THE  
FIGURES ARE: SHAPP \$25.8 BILLION, ALL OTHERS: \$24.7 BILLION.

THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE PAYROLL IS NOW AT 972 EMPLOYEES.  
GOVERNOR SCRANTON MANAGED WITH 170 STAFFERS; WHICH MEANS THAT  
GOVERNOR SHAPP HAS INCREASED STAFF POSITIONS BY OVER 471%!

THE COSTS OF OPERATING OTHER STATE DEPARTMENTS ARE ALSO  
SOARING. IN THIS YEAR THE ADMINISTRATIVE COST IN WELFARE JUMPED  
ANOTHER 17 PERCENT--AND IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT COSTS WHEN UP  
33%.

PENNDOT'S "MAINTENANCE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS" HAS RISEN 39.2% IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, BUT MONEY FOR ACTUAL ROAD MAINTENANCE ROSE BY ONLY 16.9%. MUCH OF THE NEW \$200 MILLION A YEAR IN ADDITIONAL HIGHWAY TAXES IN THE PAST THREE YEAR PERIOD HAVE BEEN DIVERTED TO "ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS," AND THE POLITICAL PROMISES TO USE ALL THE NEW MONEY FOR POT-HOLE REPAIR WERE FORGOTTEN.

OVERALL, THE SHAPP ADMINISTRATION'S INCREASED COSTS FOR JUST RUNNING GOVERNMENT THIS YEAR WERE TEN TIMES THE RATE OF THE INCREASE FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION. THAT MEANS 8 PERCENT FOR THE BUREAUCRACY AND ONLY AN .08 PERCENT INCREASE FOR EDUCATION.

THE HIGH COST OF GOVERNMENT IS UPSETTING BECAUSE ALTHOUGH TAXPAYERS ARE ASKED TO GIVE MORE AND MORE EVERY YEAR IT CERTAINLY SEEMS THAT WE ARE GETTING LESS AND LESS IN STATE SERVICES.

WHERE DOES ALL THIS MONEY GO? AN ARTICLE ENTITLED "GOVERNOR'S MEAL TAB: \$50,000" MAY SHED SOME LIGHT ON THAT QUESTION.

THE HEADLINE WAS FROM AN ARTICLE IN THE STATE CAPITOL PRESS DESCRIBING A DINNER THE GOVERNOR BOUGHT, WITH TAX MONEY,

FOR AN ASSORTMENT OF 1500 GUESTS AT HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA ON JULY 5, 1976.

ENJOYING THE FEAST WERE GOVERNORS OF OTHER STATES, AND AN ARMY OF THEIR AIDES. AS THE NEWS ARTICLE SAID, MANY OF THE GOVERNORS WERE USING THE NATIONAL GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE AT HERSHEY AS A STOPPING PLACE ON THEIR WAY EAST TO THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION IN NEW YORK.

A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL, AND THE COST TO PENNSYLVANIA TAXPAYERS WAS "HELD" TO JUST \$33 PER PLATE, WHICH ISN'T BAD, WHEN YOU FIGURE THAT THIS COVERED THE SERVING OF 600 BOTTLES OF WINE.

HOWEVER, FOR THE LARGE NUMBER OF PENNSYLVANIA TAXPAYERS WHO EAT BEANS INSTEAD OF MEAT A FEW TIMES A WEEK FOR SUPPER... IT HAS A SPECIAL MEANING.

THE \$50,000 SPENT FOR THE SHAPP DINNER IS EQUAL TO THE ANNUAL STATE INCOME TAXES PAID BY 312 AVERAGE WORKERS.

IN ADDITION TO PICKING UP THE TAB FOR THE \$50,000 DINNER, GOVERNOR SHAPP PLAYED "HOST" WITH ANOTHER \$200,000 IN PENNSYLVANIA TAX MONEY AT THE EVENT.



WITH IRRESPONSIBLE SPENDING SUCH AS THIS IT IS LITTLE WONDER THAT MOST PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE THINKING OF MODERN GOVERNMENT--HE DIDN'T KNOW WHERE HE WAS WHEN HE GOT THERE; AND HE DID IT ALL ON BORROWED MONEY.

THE SHAPP ADMINISTRATION IS NOT LIVING WITHIN ITS MEANS AND TAXPAYERS WILL UNFORTUNATELY BE FORCED TO PAY THE BILL UNLESS STATE SPENDING HABITS ARE REVERSED.

ALLOW ME TO SHARE WITH YOU SEVERAL IDEAS WHICH I BELIEVE IF PUT INTO PRACTICE WILL HELP CORRECT THIS FISCAL IRRESPONSIBILITY.

FIRST OF ALL I BELIEVE THAT BUREAUCRACY AND ITS GOVERNOR SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO START REPORTING HOW IT USES TAX MONEY ON STANDARD FORMS WHICH CANNOT BE CHANGED TO HIDE FACTS, OR TRICK PEOPLE AND THE LEGISLATURE.

WE CANNOT INVENT OUR OWN TAX FORM, AND THEREFORE THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO. AS IT IS, THE GOVERNOR IS CONSTANTLY "REPORTING" TO YOU AND THE LEGISLATURE BY SHUFFLING FIGURES AND TERMINOLOGY EACH YEAR. THIS YEAR'S STATE BUDGET DOCUMENTS WEIGHED OVER SIX POUNDS, AND CONTAINED OVER 1,000 PAGES.

OUR STATE GOVERNMENT MUST BE FORCED TO REPORT IN A WAY SO THAT ANY AVERAGE PERSON CAN READ THE BUDGET, UNDERSTAND IT, AND COMPARE COSTS.

PRODUCTIVITY STANDARDS SHOULD ALSO BE APPLIED TO ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. ALL DEPARTMENTS MUST BE EVALUATED AND THAT MEANS MEASURING JUST WHAT IT IS, AND HOW MUCH WE ARE GETTING FOR OUR MONEY. THE GOVERNMENT TELLS EVERYONE ELSE HOW THEY SHOULD OPERATE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, BUT SHELTERS ITS OWN OPERATION FROM BEING MEASURED. I THINK IT IS ABOUT TIME THAT PRODUCTIVITY STANDARDS BE APPLIED TO GOVERNMENT IN AN EFFORT TO HALT THE TREND OF PAYING MORE FOR LESS.

ANOTHER SPENDING REFORM IDEA WHICH I AM SUPPORTING IS POPULARLY KNOWN AS SUNSET LEGISLATION. THIS MEASURE PROVIDES FOR PERIODIC LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF ALL COMMONWEALTH AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS TO INSURE THAT STATE GOVERNMENT OPERATES EFFICIENTLY AND ACCORDING TO LEGISLATIVE INTENT.

THE BILL REQUIRES THAT ALL AGENCIES GO OUT OF EXISTENCE ON A STAGGERED BASIS BEGINNING JULY 1, 1977 THROUGH JULY 1, 1981 UNLESS SPECIALLY RE-CREATED BY AN ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. I BELIEVE THAT GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES SHOULD BE PROVEN TO BE COST

EFFECTIVE IF THEY ARE TO CONTINUE, AND IT IS TIME WE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TAKE A GOOD, CLOSE LOOK AT THESE AGENCIES AND THEIR FUNCTIONS AND HOW WELL THEY ARE PERFORMED.

ALSO ON THE TOPIC OF BUREAUCRATIC GROWTH THE HOUSE IN JUNE PASSED A REGULATORY REFORM ACT WHICH I BELIEVE IS A MAJOR STEP TOWARD BRINGING STATE REGULATORY AGENCIES UNDER GREATER SCRUTINY AND CONTROL. THIS PROPOSAL WOULD CREATE A TEMPORARY COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF STATE REGULATORY ACTIVITY ON THE ECONOMY.

THE ACTIONS OF AGENCIES AND THEIR REGULATIONS HAVE A PROFOUND IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF MILLIONS OF PENNSYLVANIANS. TO A LARGE EXTENT WHAT WE HAVE TODAY IS GOVERNMENT BY REGULATION INSTEAD OF GOVERNMENT BY LAW. THIS LEGISLATION, HOWEVER, IS AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP TOWARD CORRECTING THIS SITUATION AND TOWARD RE-ASSERTING THE WHOLE NOTION OF ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE PUBLIC IN THIS VAST AREA OF PUBLIC POLICY.

AND FINALLY A PLAN MUST BE INITIATED TO STRENGTHEN THE LEGISLATURE'S AND THE PEOPLE'S ABILITY TO PROBE BUREAUCRACY'S SPENDING. RAW POLITICAL POWER TODAY CAN TOTALLY PROTECT STATE SPENDING FROM EXAMINATION. H. B. 138, THE LEGISLATIVE POST-AUDITING ACT, WOULD ANSWER THIS PROBLEM WHICH HAS GROWN WORSE

IN RECENT YEARS.

IF THESE PLANS ARE PUT INTO PRACTICE I BELIEVE THAT THE 94th PSALM WILL NO LONGER BE APPLICABLE TO PENNSYLVANIA. HAVEN'T YOU HEARD THE 94th PSALM OR AS IT IS MORE POPULARLY CALLED THE ADMINISTRATION PSALM? ALLOW ME TO RECITE IT:

THE ADMINISTRATION IS MY SHEPHERD. . . I AM IN WANT.

IT MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN ON PARK BENCHES.

IT LEADETH ME BESIDE THE STILL FACTORIES.

IT RESTORETH THE DOLE.

IT MIS-LEADETH ME IN THE PATHS OF CONFUSION FOR THE PARTY'S SAKE.

YEA, THO I WALK THROUGH THE SHADOW OF DEPRESSION, I ANTICIPATE NO RECOVERY, FOR IT IS WITH ME.

IT PREPARETH A REDUCTION IN MY SALARY IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES.

IT ANNOINTETH MY INCOME WITH TAXES; MY EXPENSES RUNNETH OVER. SURELY TAXES AND INFLATION SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE AND I SHALL DWELL IN A MORTGAGED HOME FOREVER.

I BELIEVE THAT THE PLANS I HAVE OUTLINED WOULD HELP END THE HIGH COST OF GOVERNMENT AND MAKE THE 94th ADMINISTRATIVE PSALM OBSOLETE.