



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

HARRISBURG

For Immediate Release

9/10/81

Contact: Jon Macks at 843-1700

State Representative Robert W. O'Donnell, D-198th, will introduce a bill when the General Assembly reconvenes which will enable the city to garnish the wages of New Jersey residents who are delinquent in paying the city wage tax.

Under current law, every taxing authority in the state has the power to garnish wages to collect delinquent taxes. O'Donnell's bill, which will give the city this power, is designed to enable the city the means by which it can collect over \$25 million in delinquent taxes owed by New Jersey residents.

"There is no logical reason why every taxing authority in Pennsylvania has this power and we do not," O'Donnell said. "We need this tool to collect the millions of dollars owed by New Jersey residents, money, which if collected, could obviate the need for an increase in property taxes on our own city's residents."

O'Donnell's bill is being co-sponsored by many other members of the Philadelphia delegation.

ROBERT W. O'DONNELL
CHAIRMAN OF THE
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS



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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

March 24, 1982

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: ROB DUNHAM, 843-1700

O'DONNELL ATTACKS NON-RESIDENT TAX CUT

State Representative Robert W. O'Donnell, Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, today attacked House passage of a bill that would slash Philadelphia's non-resident wage tax by nearly one-third.

O'Donnell called the proposal, which could cost the City \$56 million in lost tax revenues, "another attempt by suburban legislators to cripple the City's economy." The bill would cut the Philadelphia wage tax paid by in-state suburban commuters from 4.31 percent to 2.9 percent.

"At a time when state and federal cutbacks endanger the delivery of human services in Philadelphia, the City cannot afford to lose additional revenues to workers who already take their wages out of the City," O'Donnell said. "The alternative proposed by the suburban legislators is to expand the City's tax base into an area that has heretofore been reserved for the public schools. This will, of course, further undermine the Philadelphia public school system."

O'Donnell said the bill "would encourage additional flight to the suburbs by giving non-residents an unfair tax break. This kind of tax cut is simply irresponsible."

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ROBERT W. O'DONNELL
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

November 22, 1983

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: ROB DUNHAM, 843-1700

PHILADELPHIA-area OFFICIALS TACKLE TAX REFORM

Sixty-one state, county, and city officials from the five-county Philadelphia metropolitan area met today in an extraordinary Legislative Summit Meeting to develop a regional plan for tax reform.

State Representative Robert W. O'Donnell (D-Germantown), the House Majority Whip, who co-chaired the meeting with City Council President Joseph E. Coleman, praised the Council President "for his efforts to get a dialogue going between the City and suburban officials. This summit meeting was a result of leadership on Councilman Coleman's part."

O'Donnell called the session "a two-fold success. First, everyone sat down together and talked constructively, and, second, we came to an agreement about how to approach this problem."

That approach involved the appointment of a Tax Reform Task Force consisting of Coleman, O'Donnell, State Senator Vincent J. Fumo (D-South Philadelphia), and State Senator John Stauffer (R-Chester County).

O'Donnell said "We agreed to convene this committee to come up with a proposal within the next few months that will outline statewide tax reforms and not just changes in our local wage tax structure.

"Southeastern Pennsylvania is the last piece of the puzzle for statewide tax reform. But with this new willingness to work cooperatively, I'm optimistic that we can put together a concrete and viable tax plan," O'Donnell concluded.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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HARRISBURG

August 6, 1984

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: ROB DUNHAM, 843-1700

GOODE THANKS O'DONNELL FOR STATE AID

Philadelphia Mayor W. Wilson Goode has thanked State Representative Robert W. O'Donnell (D-Germantown) for his role in gaining passage of the new city business tax and for increased state assistance to the City.

In a letter to O'Donnell, the Mayor wrote: "I want to thank you, as the House Majority Whip and a senior member of our City's delegation in Harrisburg, for your help in obtaining a new business tax and \$21 million in additional state aid. I particularly appreciate the key role you played in securing the enactment of the business tax ... which I believe will greatly improve the economic climate of our City."

O'Donnell served as floor manager for the business tax bill and was a negotiator for Philadelphia on the state budget. Mayor Goode said he "greatly appreciated" O'Donnell's support on both of these measures, adding that "the new state budget provides the aid we need to improve basic services."

The state budget raised state assistance to the School District of Philadelphia by more than \$20 million, in addition to the increases for city services.