



# State Senator **VINCENT HUGHES** *Reports to the People*

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**PUT THE  
PEOPLE FIRST  
AND STOP  
THE CUTS!**

# STOP GOVERNOR CORBETT'S BUDGET CUTS

## GOVERNOR CORBETT'S BUDGET CUTS:

- ✘ Basic Education: \$1.1 Billion
- ✘ Higher Education: \$662 Million
- ✘ Health Care Services: \$360 Million
- ✘ Job Creation Programs: \$110 Million

## YET, GOVERNOR CORBETT GIVES:

- ✓ \$200 Million Increase to Dept. of Corrections
- ✓ \$320 Million in Corporate Tax Breaks
- ✓ Marcellus Shale Drillers a pass as Pennsylvania remains the only state with no drilling tax

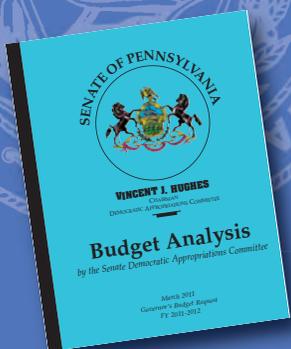
## ◆ Senator Hughes Elected Democratic Appropriations Chairman

In November 2010, Senator Hughes was elected Democratic Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. As the Democratic Chairman, Senator Hughes plays a key role in developing Pennsylvania's annual budget and establishing the state's spending priorities.

Hughes has served as Democratic Caucus Chairman since 2008. He has been a member of the state Senate since November of 1994. Prior to coming to the Senate, he was a member of the state House of Representatives from 1987-1994.

Hughes has championed issues that directly impact working families. He led the fight to raise Pennsylvania's minimum wage, and has been a leader in advancing economic development throughout his district and especially in distressed neighborhoods.

"It is imperative that we in the legislature work diligently to ensure that Pennsylvanians get back to work with quality jobs," Hughes said. "By working closely with other members of the Appropriations Committee and my fellow Democrats, I am confident that we can invest in Pennsylvania's economy and put people back to work."



# PUT THE PEOPLE FIRST

# AND STOP THE CUTS!

## Sen. Hughes and the Senate Democrats PUTS THE PEOPLE FIRST

After six weeks of intense work, the Senate Democrats have come up with another way to balance the state budget. Under our plan, we can continue to create jobs, restore money to educate our children and keep much needed health care services.

*O*n March 8, 2011, the Governor proposed a budget for Pennsylvania that would make massive cuts in education for our school children, force huge tuition increases for our college students and cut vital health care and job creation programs in order to balance the state budget. He also proposed massive tax breaks for the largest corporations in the state. Basically, he balanced the state budget on the backs of working families and children while giving the largest companies in Pennsylvania a tax giveaway. Everyone knows that there is a budget crisis in Pennsylvania, but you can't make working people the only individuals to foot the bill. They are not the ones who caused this problem and they should not be the only people who sacrifice to fix the problem.

After 80 hours of budget hearings, intense review and grilling of all of the cabinet secretaries, and after researching the work of other states, we have come up with a proposal that balances the state budget and restores much needed investments and services.



*Governor Corbett's budget proposal would cut \$1.1 billion from basic education. Investments during the last decade have made Pennsylvania the only state in the nation where test scores have gone up at every grade level and in every subject matter. Why would we ever want to reverse this progress? Pennsylvania needs to continue investing in education.*

Everyone knows that there is a budget crisis in Pennsylvania, but you can't make working people the only individuals to foot the bill.



To find out more about the Senate Democrats' plan to PUT THE PEOPLE FIRST

# Democrats have an Alternative that **PEOPLE FIRST!**

## DETAILS OF THE PLAN

### ◆ **TAX FAIRNESS: Gov. Corbett's Proposed Corporate Tax Breaks**

Governor Corbett proposes to provide over \$320 million in tax breaks to Pennsylvania's major corporations. It is not fair to cut massive funding out of education, job creation programs and health care services, while at the same time provide for these kinds of tax breaks. While we all want to lessen the tax burden on our business community, now is not the time. Gov. Corbett also wants to continue to give the Marcellus Shale drilling industry a pass on paying any taxes or fees. Again, you can't cut state money to school kids, which means local property taxes will have to increase, and at the same time, let this multi-billion dollar industry off the hook.

### ◆ **BUDGET SAVINGS, NOT BUDGET CUTS: Make Pennsylvania Work Smarter**

We believe that by strengthening proven programs in the Department of Public Welfare, combining programs in the Department of Corrections and improving programs in the Department of General Services, we can save over \$700 million in state spending. All of this can happen without eliminating vital services, which are even more necessary in this time of economic recession.

### ◆ **COUNT THE CURRENT MONEY CORRECTLY**

The Governor believes that there will only be \$78 million in the current surplus. The Senate Democrats believe that the surplus in this year's budget will be over \$400 million. That's existing money that can go to fix the budget problem.

### ◆ **PUTTING PA'S PEOPLE FIRST**

With the above alternatives to the Governor's plan, Senate Democrats believe that we can begin to restore the cuts to basic education, put money back for our college students to avoid dramatic tuition increases, fund our important job creation programs and provide for necessary health care services, including the important adultBasic health insurance program. We can also fund the critical home foreclosure prevention program, HEMAP, which thousands of Pennsylvania families have utilized to keep from losing their home.

We can do more, if we work together, and have our priorities in the right order. The Senate Democratic plan puts Pennsylvania's People First, and protects the things that are most important to them—their children, their jobs, their homes and their health care.



*Senator Hughes encourages constituents to call all of their elected officials and the Governor, and let them know of the concerns with the budget. We can do more, if we work together, and have our priorities in the right order.*



*In an effort to ensure Pennsylvanians are made aware of the budget cuts, as well as the Senate Democratic Budget Savings Plan, Senator Hughes has done various media interviews and hearings throughout the state.*

By making the state run smarter, and more efficiently, we can find the dollars necessary to protect Pennsylvania's hard working families who are struggling to make ends meet.

**Let the Governor know that there is another way, and that he has to**

**PUT THE  
PEOPLE FIRST  
AND STOP  
THE CUTS!**

**EMAIL: [www.governor.state.pa.us](http://www.governor.state.pa.us)**

*Click on "Contact"*

*Click on "Email the Governor's Office"*

**PEOPLE FIRST, go to [www.senatorhughes.com](http://www.senatorhughes.com)**

5,000 Pounds of Food Donated; Over \$3,000 Contributed

## Senator Hughes & Friends Party with a Purpose

Senator Hughes and his wife, Sheryl Lee Ralph, hosted their annual holiday event, "Holiday Affair with a Flair," on December 20 at World Café Live. Admission to the annual event was either a monetary donation or a donation of non-perishable food. Attendees donated a total of 5,000 pounds of food, and over \$3000 in cash for the SHARE Food Program of Pennsylvania (Self-Help and Resource Exchange).



You can continue to support  
this great cause by visiting SHARE at  
[www.sharefoodprogram.org](http://www.sharefoodprogram.org)  
or by calling (215) 223-2220.

**TAKE THE TEST, TAKE CONTROL!**  
**JUNE 27, 2011**  
**NATIONAL HIV TESTING DAY**

GET INFORMED. • GET TESTED. GET TREATED. • GET INVOLVED.

Visit [www.testtogether.org](http://www.testtogether.org)  
or call 1-215-985-AIDS





**STATE SENATOR  
VINCENT HUGHES**

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# SENATOR VINCENT HUGHES and the PA Dept. of Aging

*Invite you to attend the 1st Annual*

# AGE STRONG! LIVE LONG! EVENT FOR SENIORS



**Thursday, May 19 • 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
Salvation Army Kroc Center  
4200 Wissahickon Ave. • Philadelphia

Register to  
enter Best Pie  
Contest  
215.879.7777

- ❑ RSVP now at 215-879-2452 or [eventsvp@pasenate.com](mailto:eventsvp@pasenate.com)
- ❑ Free Parking
- ❑ Accessible SEPTA Routes X and XH
- ❑ Bring a copy of your identification to register for SEPTA's Free Senior Ride Program

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Registration
9 a.m. - 12:40 p.m.	Workshops, Information Fair, Health Screenings & Entertainment
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	LUNCH: Free only with RSVP
1 p.m. - 2 p.m.	Formal Program



**Legal, Finance, Insurance, Housing, Employment & Healthy Living Workshops**