



Pennsylvania Death Tax Voter Guide Election 2010

Death Tax Repeal matters for Pennsylvania

In just a few short weeks the death tax (aka, federal estate tax) comes roaring back to life at the rate of 55% on all estates above \$1 million.

Former Congressional Budget Office Director Douglass Holtz-Eakin has calculated that reinstating the death tax will cost the country 1.4 million small-business jobs.¹ On the other hand, Pennsylvania alone stands to gain over 64,000 jobs if the Death Tax is repealed.² Despite the catastrophic consequences of the death tax, many in Congress support reinstating it.

The voter guide indicates whether candidates have committed to supporting permanent death tax repeal by signing the *Death Tax Repeal Pledge*. The guide also provides the legislative voting record for incumbent members of the U.S. Senate and House.

Please review the guide before voting and share with your friends, family members, and colleagues. PDF copies of the guide are available at www.nodeathtax.org/election2010. Don't forget to vote!

U.S. Senate Candidates

Candidate	Repeal Pledge Signer?	H.R. 4213 (2010)	Amend. 873 Bud. Res 13 (2009)	H.R. 8 (2006)	H.R. 1836 (2001)	H.R. 8 (2000)
Joe Sestak (D)	NOT SIGNED	As a Member of Congress, Joe Sestak voted against repeal in 2007 (instructions to recommit, H.R. 3056) and for keeping the death tax at 45% in 2009 (H.R. 4154).				
Pat Toomey (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE	As a Member of Congress, Pat Toomey voted for repeal in 2005 (H.R. 8) and 2001 (H.R. 1836).				

Vote Key:

H.R. 4213 (2010): Would have instructed the Senate Finance Committee to redraft legislation to include permanent death tax repeal.

H.R. 8 (2006): Would have permanently repealed the death tax.

H.R. 8: (2002): Would have permanently repealed the death tax.

H.R. 1836 (2001): Temporarily repealed the death tax (among other tax relief measures).

H.R. 8 (2000): Would have permanently repealed the death tax.

Amendment 873 Bud. Res 13 (2009): Would have set aside room in the budget to make the death tax permanent at the rate of 35% with a \$5 million individual exemption.

¹ See Douglas Holtz-Eakin and Cameron T. Smith, "Growth Consequences of Estate Tax Reform: Impacts on Small and Family Businesses," *American Family Business Foundation*, September 2010.

² Based on research published by the Pennsylvania Family Institute in September, 2009.

Blue represents a vote for repeal or reform of the estate tax. Red represents a vote to maintain the death tax status quo.

Candidates who were not in office at the time of the vote are listed blank for the relevant vote. Candidates who were in office but chose not to vote for the legislation are listed as “not voting.”

U.S. House Candidates

Candidate	Repeal Pledge Signer?	H.R. 4154 (2009)	H.R. 3056 (2007)	H.R. 8 (2002)	H.R. 1836 (2001)
District 1					
Bob Brady (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES	NO	NO	NO
District 2					
Rep. Chaka Fattah (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES	NO	NO	NO
Rick Hellberg (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 3					
Rep. Kathy Dahlkemper (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES			
Mike Kelly (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 4					
Rep. Jason Altmire (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES	YES		
Keith Rothfus (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 5					
Rep. Glenn Thompson (R)	NOT SIGNED	NO			
Michael Pipe (D)	NOT SIGNED				
Vernon Etzel (L)	NOT SIGNED				
District 6					

Rep. Jim Gerlach (R)	NOT SIGNED	NO	YES	YES	
Manan Trivedi (D)	NOT SIGNED				
District 7					
Bryan Lentz (D)	NOT SIGNED				
Pat Meehan (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 8					
Rep. Patrick Murphy (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES	NO		
Mike Fitzpatrick (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 9					
Rep. Bill Shuster (R)	NOT SIGNED	NO	YES	YES	YES
Tom Connors (D)	NOT SIGNED				
District 10					
Rep. Chris Carney (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES	NO		
Tom Marino (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 11					
Rep. Paul Kanjorski (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES	NO	NO	NO
Lou Barletta (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 12					
Rep. Mark Critz (D)	NOT SIGNED				
Tim Burns (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 13					
Rep. Allyson Schwartz (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES	NO	NO	

Dee Adcock (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 14					
Rep. Mike Doyle (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES	NO	NO	NO
Melissa Haluszczak (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 15					
Rep. Charlie Dent (R)	NOT SIGNED	NO	YES	YES	
John Callahan (D)	NOT SIGNED				
Jake Towne (I)	NOT SIGNED				
District 16					
Rep. Joe Pitts (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE	NO	YES	YES	YES
Lois Herr (D)	NOT SIGNED				
District 17					
Rep. Tim Holden (D)	NOT SIGNED	YES	NO	NO	NO
Dave Argall (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE				
District 18					
Rep. Tim Murphy (R)	NOT SIGNED	NO	YES	YES	
Dan Connolly (D)	NOT SIGNED				
District 19					
Rep. Todd Platts (R)	NOT SIGNED	NO	YES	YES	YES
Ryan Sanders (D)	NOT SIGNED				
Josh Monighan (I)	NOT SIGNED				

Vote Key:

H.R. 4154 (2009): Would have cancelled the 2010 death tax repeal and made the tax permanent at 45% with a \$3.5 million exemption.

H.R. 3056 (2007): Would have instructed the Senate Finance Committee to redraft legislation to include permanent death tax repeal.

H.R. 8: (2005): Would have permanently repealed the death tax.

H.R. 1836 (2001): Temporarily repealed the death tax (among other tax relief measures).

Blue represents a vote for repeal or reform of the estate tax. **Red** represents a vote to maintain the death tax status quo.

Candidates who were not in office at the time of the vote are listed blank for the relevant vote. Candidates who were in office but chose not to vote for the legislation are listed as "not voting."