

F.A.C.T. Friends Against Counterproductive Taxation

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CITIZEN GROUP SUBMITS THOUSANDS OF SIGNATURES TO PLACE MEASURE ON BALLOT

Voters to have opportunity to tell Port Authority and County to make tough spending decisions instead of raising taxes

Pittsburgh, PA – August 5, 2008 – F.A.C.T. (Friends Against Counterproductive Taxation), an Allegheny County citizens and civic association, today filed with the Allegheny County Division of Elections the petition signatures required to place on the November 4th ballot the opportunity for Allegheny County voters to substantially reduce the unfair and unnecessary “Drink Tax.” The Grant Street and Harrisburg proponents of this new, onerous tax have done everything possible to attempt to stymie and confuse this citizen effort for blatant political purposes.

Allegheny County businessperson and FACT board member and restaurateur Kevin Joyce said, “FACT has collected tens of thousands of signatures from registered voters in Allegheny County - many more than the legally required number to place a question on the ballot. In fact, if we kept circulating petitions, we could ultimately collect the signatures of a majority of the voters in the county because a clear majority wants county government to cut wasteful and mismanaged spending rather than raise taxes.”

Joyce continued, “The voters who signed our petition are just the tip of the iceberg of those who will express themselves on November 4th – sending county government a clear message – in a time of recession don’t tax small businesses, crushing their employees and further hurting their customers, to continue to feed the beast of out of control spending at the Port Authority and elsewhere in the County. Clean up your own house before you reach any further into our already shrinking wallets.”

Friends Against Counterproductive Taxation (F.A.C.T.) - is a group of Allegheny County restaurateurs and taxpayers who have come together to stand as one to support, protect and defend their industry; those who work for them, those who provide products for them, those who provide the service for them and the consumers (customers) who support them. For more information visit <http://www.stopdrinktax.com>.

Editor’s Note: FACT Board Members Kevin Joyce and John Graf are available for interviews – please contact Michele Burchfield to arrange an opportunity.

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