

**SANDRA J. MAJOR, MEMBER**  
111<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

120 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING  
PO BOX 202111  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2111  
PHONE: (717) 783-2910  
FAX: (717) 783-2010

16501 STATE ROUTE 706, SUITE 2  
MONTROSE, PA 18801  
PHONE: (570) 278-3374  
FAX: (570) 278-2952

130 BRIDGE STREET, SUITE 3  
TUNKHANNOCK, PA 18657  
PHONE: (570) 836-5888  
FAX: (570) 836-5453



**House of Representatives**  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS CHAIRMAN  
POLICY COMMITTEE  
BOARD MEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA HIGHER  
EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AGENCY (PHEAA)

WEBSITE: WWW.REPMAJOR.COM  
E-MAIL: SMAJOR@PAHOUSEGOP.COM

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** All House Members

**FROM:** Representative Sandra J. Major *SJM*

**DATE:** April 7, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Cosponsorship – Unemployment Compensation Law Amendment  
(Tax Exemption for Summer Camps)

---

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation to amend the Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law to exempt organized summer camps from paying unemployment taxes on full time students that they might employ. Current law requires these camps to pay unemployment contributions on the wages of students who are virtually certain to be precluded from qualifying from unemployment benefits when they return to school. The language in this legislation directly reflects language from New York state unemployment compensation law. It is estimated by the Pennsylvania Camp Association that these camps pay an additional \$5,000 to \$6,000 per year to comply with the current law.

It is important to note that in 1982 Congress made a temporary change to the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) to provide relief in this area which it made permanent in 1985. A study made by the American Camp Association found that more than half of the \$1.7 million in tax savings was used to provide additional summer employment for students. In addition, \$300,000 went to fund the public service programs, including camp scholarships for 2,300 underprivileged youths.

I believe that this legislation will eliminate an unnecessary tax. Please contact Jennifer Harrison at 783-2910 or [jharriso@pahousegop.com](mailto:jharriso@pahousegop.com) if you would like to cosponsor this legislation.