



Senate of Pennsylvania

Senator Larry Farnese
1st Senatorial District

MEMO

Date: *April 9, 2012*
To: *All Senators*
From: *Senator Lawrence M. Farnese, Jr.*
Subject: *Co-sponsorship Memo – Anti-Windfall Provision for First Class Counties*

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that would prohibit revenue windfalls from occurring when Philadelphia conducts a property reassessment.

Currently, Philadelphia is the only county in Pennsylvania that does not have anti-windfall provisions that apply when increasing real property taxes allowable by law after a countywide reassessment. Current provisions require that a taxing authority reduce its millage rate after a reassessment so that the total amount of taxes levied are no greater than the total amount of taxes levied in the prior year. Revenue increases resulting from reassessment are only allowed within the parameters of a predetermined cost index. Existing statutory provisions apply in varying manners to both school districts and political subdivisions.

These anti-windfall provisions ensure that a property reassessment cannot be used as a way to conceal a tax increase without a further debate and separate vote by the taxing authority.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Brandie Pifer at 7-5662 or via email at bpifer@pasenate.com.