

Key to 2005 Scorecard — House of Delegates Votes Friendly or Unfriendly to Taxpayers

1 Tax Race Tracks at \$1000/machine the same as annual fee the veterans and fraternal groups pay to generate \$12 million to cut the 86% rate increase on the timber industry in half, reduce the natural gas rate increase by \$5.5 million with the rest going to reduce the coal rate increase from \$.56 to .51. This amendment reduced the rate increase on some core industries to

2 Workers' Compensation reform, privatization and tax increase on energy. This established a process to privatize the WC system to make it more efficient and accountable while

3 Rule change forcing an issue to floor if ten delegates sign a petition requesting the issue be taken up. Delegates could only sign one petition per year. The committee would have seven calendar days to report the bill be sent to the full House

4 Trinkets A amendment to the Ethics Bill Prohibiting elected or appointed public officials from using their name or likeness on state-owned or leased vehicles, promotional materials, commercials, printed materials. Exempt are official records,

5 911 Wireless tax increases Increasing the 911 fee from \$.75 to \$3.00 per month and changing the way the PSC would distribute the fee. Some counties with large number of users e.g. Kanawha or Berkeley Co. would share funds with counties

6 Pay raises for judges, magistrates and statewide elected officials including a \$26,000 pay raise for Supreme Court Justices (going to \$121,000) and Circuit Court judges (to \$116,000), a \$20,500 raise for Family Court judges (to \$83,000) and a \$10,000 pay raise for Magistrates in counties over 8,400

7 Hunting and fishing fee increase and also authorization for automatic increases in the future by the director. Some of the substantial fee increases may lead to a decline in the number

8 Hotel tax for cities Authorizing municipalities to impose an additional 3% hotel occupancy tax to the current 3%. (SB

9 Budget Bill Continuing the growth in the general revenues budget, taking it to \$3,190,337 without tax reductions and with many accounts undesignated. Many pork projects are

10 Limiting the food tax reduction to 1 cent as the governor proposed in the call of the special session rather than total elimination as others sought. The one cent reduction limit was justified on the basis that the governor specifically put that in the call. Others felt the House and legislative branch had the constitutional authority to determine the outcome of the issue, that the governor sets the agenda but not the specific details of the final product, that was within the jurisdiction of legislative

the state, industries that are very competitive with our surrounding states and provided jobs and revenues to WV. The state should be rewarding these industries, not making more expensive to operate in WV. They will also likely pass the increased cost on to consumers in the state with higher energy bills. (SB 1004) 1/29/05 RC#13 (29-66).

at the same time raised \$230 million in taxes on coal, gas and timber, making those industries and products more costly and less competitive. (SB 1004) 1/29/05 RC#22 (84-6).

and five days to place it on the active calendar for the full House to consider. This would allow issues year after year ignored by the leadership to be taken up and considered, to at least be debated and voted on. (HR 16) 3/02/05 RC#66 (65-29).

documents, maps, directories, certificates and economic development and tourism promotions. (SB 153) 3/16/05 RC#127 (33-64).

with low number of users and all would go to \$3. Some of the revenues could go to wireless reception towers and the state police. (HB 3208) 3/30/05 RC#370 (See also RC#694) (59-36).

persons (to \$50,000) all effective July 2005. Others receiving increases included the Governor and other statewide elected officials with a \$5000 raise in 2005 with increases of up to \$55,000 in 2009. (SB 514) 4/9/05 RC#618 (67-29).

of hunting and fishing licenses sold. (HB 3048) 4/9/05 RC#686 (Also RC#326) (79-20).

237) 4/9/05 RC#726 (84-16).

continued that benefit the well connected. (HB 2005) 4/16/05 RC#743 (86-8).

branch. The House leadership agreed to let the full House make the decisions by this vote and thus whether there would be 1 cent reduction or more. This vote ultimately determined if there would be a 1 cent reduction or total elimination. With a substantial increase in revenues expected this coming year and in the future many felt this was the right time to eliminate completely this tax that hurts the poor more than other groups. (HB 401) 9/13/05 RC#842 (66-33).