



Dear UFCW Local 1776 Member,

As our state's budget deadline approached, the Republican controlled House and Senate chose to forgo working with Governor Wolf on his progressive proposal and instead sent the Governor their own partisan plan. The GOP's budget was referred to in the media as the "Fifth Corbett budget" for its cuts, lack of funding and failure to hold corporations responsible for their fair share of taxes. The GOP budget did not address the issues most important to Pennsylvanians but rather touted "reforms" that hurt working families and one-time gimmicks that eliminated revenues the state desperately needs. On June 30, 2015, Gov. Wolf vetoed the GOP budget in its entirety.



*In the Capitol Rotunda, Local 1776 President Wendell Young, IV (far right) lobbying with members against liquor privatization and in support of Gov. Wolf's progressive budget.*

The people of Pennsylvania asked for significant increases in education funding for our children's schools.

Gov. Wolf grants that request in his budget proposal; the GOP budget ignored it. Pennsylvania homeowners asked for a reduction in property taxes. Gov. Wolf's proposal gives the average middle-class family a tax break; whereas the GOP refused to pass any legislation that would do this. Pennsylvania taxpayers are fed up with the Marcellus Shale industry dodging their fair share of taxes when all other states that possess this natural resource are benefitting from its tax revenues. Gov. Wolf puts an end to this in his proposal and fairly taxes Marcellus Shale; however, the GOP budget did not.



*King of Prussia Wine and Spirits Store Shop Steward Rainey Jones (front) and Southampton Wine and Spirits Store Shop Steward Suzanne Zeltman joined dozens of Local 1776 and Local 23 members in lobbying for Governor Wolf's budget.*



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Instead of focusing on what Pennsylvania needs, the GOP budget focused primarily on their personal ideologies. The GOP budget:

- Privatizes our Wine and Spirits Stores – and eliminates 3,500 UFCW members' livelihoods
- Reduces pension benefits for state employees, putting their retirement security at risk
- Sticks school districts with rising property tax costs and underfunds their schools
- Includes low levels of funding for public universities, which would increase tuition rates and worsen the burden on families trying to put their children through college



The differences between the two budgets are clear. Watch the GOP press conference and you will see how elated they are in their refusal to work with Gov. Wolf in a bipartisan fashion – pinning the two parties against each other and speaking in vague terms. Gov. Wolf's statement on his veto sticks to the facts – showing just how the GOP's numbers do not add up. The GOP budget makes bad business sense and leaves middle-class families out in the cold. Our state legislators need to wake up and work with Gov. Wolf on passing a fair budget that addresses the issues important to all Pennsylvanians.

Please see the attached fact sheet that shows a side-by-side comparison of Governor Wolf's budget versus the GOP budget he vetoed. After you review, please call and visit your State Senator and State Representative and let them know you want a fair budget for Pennsylvania, as proposed by Governor Wolf.

To find out how to contact your state legislators, please visit [www.ufcw1776.org](http://www.ufcw1776.org).

Thank you,

Wendell W. Young, IV  
President, UFCW Local 1776



(From left): UFCW Local 1776 Representative Bob Martucci, 1776 Acme Shop Steward Jim McCloskey, 1776 Wine and Spirits Store Shop Steward Katrina Christian, 1776 Wine and Spirits Store Shop Steward Mike Langan and 1776 Representative Al Hasara lobbying in Harrisburg for Governor Wolf's budget.



## Governor Wolf Vetoes Liquor Privatization Legislation Saves 3,500 UFCW Jobs

Part of the GOP budget proposal included liquor privatization which would have eliminated 3,500 UFCW jobs across Pennsylvania. Gov. Wolf vetoed this legislation on July 2, 2015.

On why he vetoed the legislation, Gov. Wolf said:

**“This legislation falls short of a responsible means to reform our state liquor system and to maximize revenues to benefit our citizens. It makes bad business sense for the Commonwealth and consumers to sell off an asset, especially before maximizing its value. During consideration of this legislation, it became abundantly clear that this plan would result in higher prices for consumers. In the most recent case of another state that pursued the outright privatization of liquor sales, consumers saw higher prices and less selection.”**



*PA Governor Tom Wolf*

**“Modernization of our state liquor system would provide additional revenues to the Commonwealth and save important, family-sustaining jobs. We can support and bolster consumer convenience without selling an asset and risking higher prices and less selection for consumers. I am open to options for expanding the availability of wine and beer in more locations, including supermarkets. I have also put other compromises on the table, including variable pricing, direct shipment of wine and expanding state store hours.”**

The UFCW PA Wine and Spirits Council and the 3,500 Pennsylvanians who work in Pennsylvania’s Wine and Spirits stores applaud Governor Tom Wolf’s veto of the reckless legislation to dismantle the PLCB.

Privatization would only increase our structural budget deficit, by eliminating valuable revenue the PLCB generates each and every year for the taxpayers of Pennsylvania. The PLCB last year contributed more than \$565 million to the state treasury. A study by Public Financial Management, Inc. (PFM), commissioned by former Gov. Tom Corbett, found that privatization would result in at least \$1.4 billion in transition costs over five years. PFM also found that the state would have to identify \$408 million in new revenue annually to make privatization fiscally neutral.

1776 President Wendell W. Young, IV’s message to the Local membership on Gov. Wolf’s veto:

**“Thankfully, Governor Wolf understands and values the service UFCW members provide as employees of the Wine and Spirits Stores. The last four years have been long, draining and filled with uncertainty. It truly is remarkable we have made it this far in spite of predictions we would have been long gone by now. There is no doubt your phone calls, letters and presence in the Capitol are why we have been successful. I would like to congratulate you for your continued solidarity and activism on fighting this scheme. You, the members, are the force behind our success and I admire your resilience. I am very proud to represent you.”**



*Local 1776 President Wendell Young, IV*



## Compare the Budgets for Yourself...

The graph below illustrates the stark differences between the GOP's budget and Governor Wolf's proposal. As Governor Wolf stated after his veto of the GOP budget, "The math does not lie." Governor Wolf reinvests in the future of Pennsylvania's schools and working people while holding drilling companies responsible for their fair share in our economy. The GOP's budget does not. Compare the funding, tax relief and wages of the two budgets. Then make the call to your legislators and urge them to support the proposal that moves Pennsylvania forward. Learn more at [www.ufcw1776.org](http://www.ufcw1776.org).

### Education Funding

	Wolf	Republican
New school funding*	\$507 million	\$8 million
New Pre-K slots*	14,000	3,500

### Property Tax Relief

	Wolf	Republican
Property tax relief for the typical homeowner	\$968	\$0

### A Minimum Wage of \$10.10

	Wolf	Republican
Number of workers that would get a raise in the state	1.27 million	0

### Drilling Tax

	Wolf	Republican
District drilling tax revenue	\$1.08 billion	\$0

### Human Services Funding

	Wolf	Republican
New human services funding*	\$498,667	\$0
New mental health services funding	\$18.9 million	\$0

### Higher Education Funding

	Wolf	Republican
Community colleges	\$15 million	\$6.5 million
State system universities	\$44 million	\$12.4 million
State-related universities	\$83 million	\$17.4 million

**To See How the Gov. Wolf and Republican Budget Proposals Would Affect Your Local Community, Check Out the Details for State Senate and State House Districts:**  
[www.pennbpc.org/RepublicanBudget1516](http://www.pennbpc.org/RepublicanBudget1516)

\*For more information visit [www.pennbpc.org](http://www.pennbpc.org)