

2010 House of Delegates Taxpayer Scorecard

1. **Job Impact Statement (JIS)** on select bills to determine if the bill in question will create job growth or hurt job development. Bills that become law have consequences and it is very prudent to know their full impact and avoid unintended consequences that could cost millions of dollars in job creation. Job Impact Statements could be done by a state university at little additional cost with much of the work done during the monthly interim meeting times. (Shall the resolution be rejected? A yes vote [66] opposed the JIS.)(HR 8) 2/4/10 RC#22 (66-30)
2. **Healthcare Freedom Amendment** procedural vote to block the constitutional amendment from being taken up. HJR 103 allows West Virginians, employers or providers to not be compelled to participate in any federally mandated healthcare system and the resulting cost. (A yes vote [77] opposed the issue from being considered.) (HJR 103) 2/25/10 RC#86 (77-22).
3. **Random Drug testing of welfare recipients** – motion to lay over the bill, thereby blocking (via a yes vote) the issue from being taken up. Other states are considering this to get those on welfare working and paying taxes rather than costing tax dollars. (HB 4482) 2/26/10 RC#90 (71-26).
4. **Tax Holiday for gun purchases** during the first weekend of October. This would attract out of state persons to come to WV to not only buy guns but also while they are here to purchase other merchandise associated with hunting and outdoor recreation. (HB 4521) 2/26/10 RC#109 (96-2).
5. **Increasing copy charge from 50 cents per page to 75 cents** for circuit clerk's office. (SB 471) 3/11/10 RC#273 (85-12).
6. **Authorizing cities, counties (and some school boards) to issue revenue bonds secured by lottery revenues** for public projects. This would increase debt based on "gray machines" revenue and lock in the continuation of gambling to continue debt payments. If the gambling and its revenues dropped or was discontinued and local entities liable for 10, 15, 20, or 30 year bond obligation, their credit rating could be in question. (SB 237) 3/12/10 RC#313 (70-25).
7. **Authorize DMV to identify uninsured vehicles** with better checking of vehicles titled in WV and monitoring insurance cancellations as a way to reduce the uninsured motorist cost. Security cameras would not be permitted to be used. (SB 394) 3/13/10 RC#344 (91-7).
8. **Amendment to require a 60% supermajority** (rather than 50%) before toll transportation projects could be approved, thus providing more taxpayers protection. (SB 362) 3/13/10 RC#388 (32-61).
9. **Budget Bill** \$3.7 billion in general revenues, \$4.08 in federal funds, \$561 million in lottery money, \$1.39 billion in road funds and \$1.45 billion for special revenues money including fees. A growing part of the budget is federal "backfill" that will cause revenue problems when federal stimulus money runs out. The budget did not address a major long term problem, the Other Post Employment Benefit problem. Like the teacher retirement system liability that has been funded, this OPEB liability has grown to almost \$8 billion and will create a drain on future budgets especially the longer it is put off. Total state spending has grown by more than \$1 billion over the last three years. (SB 213) 3/20/10 RC#441 (84-12).
10. **Taxpayers Pledge signers** of those making a commitment to oppose efforts to increase taxes. Listed on www.ATR.org where all legislators are invited to make this pledge against raising taxes.