

One Year Later... 60 House Members Profit From Pay Raise & Nine Senators Refuse to Return Looted Dough

(Harrisburg, Pa.) - One year after the passage of “unvouchered expenses,” 60 House Members and nine senators still stand to profit from the repealed “pay raise” including: Senate Minority Leader Robert Mellow (D), Speaker of the House John Perzel (R), and House Minority Whip Mike Veon (D).

Eric Epstein, RockTheCapital.org's coordinator said, “No one can turn a blind eye to organized gluttony. Nor can we afford to take one step backwards. While some are tired of talking about the pay raise, and others refuse to discuss reform, we are not tired of pointing out that 69 legislators continue to benefit from last year’s late night romp through the peoples bank.”

- One year ago today **Governor Rendell** declared, “It's legal [“unvouchered expenses”] and that's all I'm going to say about it.”

- **Chief Justice Cappy** stated, "I have enormous respect for the legislators who stood up and voted for this. I know how hard these pay-raise votes are. It demonstrated for me enormous courage and significant fortitude. They have grown in stature in my eyes by leaps and bounds during the course of this whole experience.

- **Speaker Perzel** observed, "The people who are milking the cows in Lancaster County are making between \$50,000 to \$55,000 a year.”

- **Rep. LaGrotta** complained "I see a very good Supreme Court justice who was targeted by people who were trying to prove a point. And that's sad. Even the mafia has a code of ethics where innocents are not targeted."

- **Eric Epstein** concluded, “You can tattoo a cow, but you can’t gag a fool.”

Base Salaries: July, 2005

Position	Salary Before Pay Raise	Pay Raise
Rank and file	\$69,648	\$ 81,050
Subcommittee	\$69,648	\$ 85,102
Committee chair or vice chair	\$69,648	\$ 89,155

After the repeal of the pay raise, legislators received a consolation prize on December 1, 2005 in the form of a **3.64%** cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA).

Base Salaries: July, 2006

• Senate President Pro Tempore	\$112,688
• House Speaker:	\$112,688
• Floor leaders:	\$104,590
• Rank-and-file lawmakers	\$ 72,187

House of Representatives

- House members who opted to “cash in”: **#131**
- House members who will *not* pay back “unvouchered expenses”: **#31.**
- Retiring members who kept the money or donated it to charity: **#20.**
- Members who *donated* the pay raise to charity: **#9.**
- Number of House members who *continue to profit* from **#60**
- Number of House members who *reimbursed the “Leadership Accounts”* either through personal checks or monthly deductions: **#71**
- Amount of reimbursement by 69* House members: **\$163,859.02**

+ Senate = \$329,659.84

* *House members have stated that they intend to pay the money back by November, 2006. The amount of reimbursements for Representatives George and Surra was not quantified by their staffs.*

Senate Repayment Update

- **Opted to “Cash In”:**

27/50: 54%

- **Opted to “Pay Back:**

17/27: Agreed to pay back \$165,800.82 over a period 1-36 months.

- **Will not pay back “unvouchered expenses”:**

9/50: 18%

- Hughes (D-Philadelphia)
- Kitchen (D-Philadelphia)
- LaValle (D-Beaver (1)
- Lemmond (R-Luzerne) (2)
- Mellow (D-Lackawanna)
- Musto (D-Luzerne)
- Stack (D-Philadelphia)
- Tartaglione (D-Philadelphia)
- Williams, A. (D-Philadelphia)

Senators, who have arranged to pay the money back over a three-year period, owe inputted interest on the following implied and tax-free loans: Sen. Scarnati (R-Jefferson), \$14,754.66; Sen. Fumo (D-Philadelphia), \$12,413.86; Sen. Punt (R-Franklin), \$7,708.54; Sen. Rhoades (R-Schuylkill), \$7,708.54; and, Sen. Wozniak (D-Cambria), \$7,708.54. (3)

The imputed interest during July 7 and November 16, 2005, was 4.58% Based on the IRS ruling or employers in Pub. 15:

In general, if an employer lends an employee more than \$10,000 at an interest rate less than the current applicable federal rate (AFR), the difference between the interest paid and the interest that would be paid under the AFR is considered additional compensation to the employee. This rule applies to a loan of \$10,000 or less if one of its principal purposes is the avoidance of federal tax.

1 The Beaver Initiative for Growth, a \$10.6 million Beaver County development agency, is controlled by the Minority Whip, Michael Veon and Senator Gerald LaValle and financed exclusively by Pennsylvania taxpayers.

2 Mr. Lemond will receive a “pension bounce” for keeping the pay raise.

Base salaries *do not* include...

- Daily per diem rate of \$141.
- Free health care.
- Pensions which were boosted in 2001 by 50 percent.
- Additional funds for auto leasing, travel expenses, food and lodging, catered meals, haircuts, and gym memberships.
- Up to \$29,400 for office expenditures per rank and file member which is only slightly more than the \$28,200 spent by Mark Cohen on a two year book buying spree.
- Annual non-lapsing leadership accounts of up to \$13 million per caucus.
- Total non-lapsing leadership accounts which have grown to \$182-187 million
- \$856,868 for private attorneys to defend leadership from citizens challenging “unvouchered expenses” and other unconstitutional perks.
- WAMS: \$56.7 million (200)
- WAMS: \$44.3 million (2006)
- \$29 million in taxpayer money to fund nonprofit groups “controlled, created or fostered” by Senator Fumo and Representatives Evans, McGill, Perzel, Sturla and Veon.
- "Legislative weekends" in Philadelphia for legislators and their families which included free hotels, meals and sports tickets from lobbyists. This year's event was canceled by legislators vow to bring it back next year...

Sampling of Pension Bumps

Legislator	Pension bump	Pension
• Rep. Elinor Z. Taylor	\$9,500.00 (a)	(R-Chester)
• Rep. William Rieger	\$5,390.00 (a)	(D-Philadelphia)
• Rep. George Hasay	\$5,390.00 (a)	(R-Luzerne)
• Rep. John Perzel	\$3403.12 (b)	(R-Philadelphia; if defeated)
• Rep. William DeWeese	\$3,386.00 (c)	(D-Greene; if defeated 11/7)
• Rep. Michael Veon	\$2,280.74(b)	(D-Beaver; if defeated 11/7)
• Rep. Steven Stetler	\$2,183.49 (b)	(D-York; if defeated 11/7)
• Rep. David Argall	≥\$2,000.00 (g)	(R-Schuylkill; if defeated 11/7)
• Rep. Victor Lescovitz	\$1,339.00 (b)	(D-Allegheny)
• Rep. Tom Corrigan	\$1,275.00 (a)	(D-Bucks)
• Rep. Larry Roberts	\$721.00 (c)	(D-Fayette)
• Rep. Michael Sturla	\$816.16 (b)	(D-Lancaster; if defeated 11/7)
• Rep. Stephen Maitland	\$714.14 (b; d)	(R-Adams) \$29,800
<i>Pension figure is projected amount when he turns 50 in six years.</i>		
• Rep. James Shaner:	\$456.00 (c)	(D-Fayette)

Sources:

- a *Philadelphia Inquirer*: March 26, 2006
- b WGAL: March 9, 2006.
- c *Herald Standard*: February 24, 2006.
- d *York Daily Record*, June 4, 2006.
- e Patriot News, May 28, 2006.

f *Lancaster New Era*, June 21, 2006.

g *RocktheCapital.org*

Sampling of Pensions

<u>Legislator</u>	<u>Pension bump</u>		<u>Pension</u>
• Sen. Robert Jubelirer	NA	(R-Blair) (e)	\$104,000
• Rep. Bruce Smith	NA	(R-York) (d; e)	\$ 87,000
• Sen. Noah Wenger	NA	(R-Lancaster) (f)	\$ 81,085
• Senator David Brightbill	NA	(R-Lebanon) (f)	\$ 72,430
• Rep. Fred Belardi	NA	(D-Luzerne) (d)	\$ 66,503
• Rep. Frank Pistella	NA	(D-Luzerne) (d)	\$ 58,389
• Rep. Peter Zug	NA	(R-Lebanon) (e)	\$ 50,214
• Rep. Patrick Fleagle	NA	(R-Franklin) (d)	\$ 37,000
• Rep. Gibson Armstrong	NA	(R-Lancaster) (g)	\$ 9,037
<i>Pension figure is projected amount when he turns 50 in eleven years.</i>			
• Rep. Roy Baldwin	NA	(R-Lancaster) (e)	\$ 8,446

Sources:

a *Philadelphia Inquirer*: March 26, 2006

b WGAL: March 9, 2006.

c *Herald Standard*: February 24, 2006.

d *York Daily Record*, June 4, 2006.

e Patriot News, May 28, 2006.

f *Lancaster New Era*, June 21, 2006.

g *RocktheCapital.org*

*The following House Members have **refused to return the “unvouchered expenses”** and will also realize **a pension boost** if they are defeated at the ballot box in 2006 or 2008.*

- Rep. Louise **Bishop** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise, but kept the money.
- Rep. Mark **Cohen** (D-Philadelphia) a 32 year veteran of the legislature, voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise, took the money, took **\$46,270 in per diems** between 2004-2005 and read **800 books** over at a cost to tax payers of **\$28,200**. (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 2, 2006.)

“The *Inquirer* recently reported he's still at it; more than \$46,000 in per-diems during '04 and '05 and other expenses such as \$28,000 in books for personal use, according to their tallies. All of which is on top of his \$87,520 base pay as third-ranking House Democrat.” (*Philadelphia Daily News*, May 15, 2006.)

- Rep. Angel **Cruz** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise, took the money and is **waiting to collect pension and health benefits before running for a higher paying job on City Council**.

- Rep. Robert **Donatucci** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.

- Rep. Dwight **Evans** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.

- Rep. Teresa **Forcier** (R-Crawford) voted "no" on the pay-raise bill but accepted "unvouchered expenses" so that she could collect the extra money immediately. RocktheCapital.org spoke with her staff on May 3, 2006, and is awaiting staff response on repayment terms...

On March 3, 2006, Rep. Forcier stated she would not violate the privacy of three dozen charities she gave \$5,400. This is a **reversal of her decision** to release the information. (*Meadville Tribune*, March 3, 2006.)

Rep. Forcier was **defeated in the primary**.

- Rep. Adam **Harris** (R-Juniata and Mifflin) is keeping **\$3,800** in “unvouchered expenses.”

- Rep. Dick **Hess** (R-Fulton) RocktheCapital.org spoke with his staff on May 3, 2006, at 787-7076 and is still awaiting a response on repayment terms.
- Rep. Harold **James** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the pay hike, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.
- Rep. Babette **Josephs** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.
- Rep. Bill **Keller** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.

“For six years, local interests have treated state lawmakers from across Pennsylvania to a "legislative weekend" in Philadelphia, **offering free hotels, meals and sports tickets to them and their families....** ‘He pulled the plug. He said it's probably not a good time to be doing things like that," State Rep. William Keller (D-Phila.) said of Perzel...But Keller had insisted on continuing with plans for this year, until after he met with Perzel this week. ‘I thought part of my job was to bring people to Philadelphia, and to show them what they were voting on was not only good for Philadelphia but also good for the entire commonwealth,’ said Keller, adding that he is committed to organizing the event next year.” (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, June 8, 2006.)

- Rep. George **Kenney** (R-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.
- Rep. Frank **LaGrotta** (D-Beaver) said he's not giving the money back. He claims the money was used to buy a new computer for his office and pay some mileage to his employees (Vindy.com, November 20, 2005).

Mr. LaGrotta billed tax payers for \$87,256 in expenses last year including \$17,611 on commercial transportation and \$10,920 on vehicle related costs. (*Beaver County Times*, June 28, 2006.)

- Rep. Stephen **Maitland** (R-Adams) used the **\$5,100 raise to attend law school**. Even though Maitland voted to repeal the raise, he said keeping the money is not hypocritical. "I think it would if the money were merely extra salary. Again, in my case it's actual reimbursement for actual expenses," Maitland said. (WGAL-Channel 8, January 11, 2006)

Rep. Maitland was **defeated in the primary** but may qualify as a democratic “write-in”. If Mr. Maitland is defeated this year or in 2008, his pension will increase by at least **\$714.14 annually** or **\$29,800** when he turns 50 (*York Daily Record*, June 4, 2006).

- Rep. Keith **McCall** (D-Carbon). Failed to respond to a request for information left at 783-1375 on May 3, 2006.

- Rep. Mike **McGeehan** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.
- Rep. John **Myers** (D-Philadelphian) voted "no" on the pay-raise bill but accepted "unvouchered expenses" so that he could collect the extra money immediately.
- Rep. Dennis **O'Brein** (R-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.
- Rep. Frank **Oliver** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.
- Rep. Joe **Petrarca** (D-Westmoreland) voted "no," but took the raise and **\$44,377** in per diems during 2004-05 (*Pittsburgh Tribune*, April 30, 2006).
- Rep. John **Perzel** (R-Philadelphia), Majority Leader and the architect of the pay raise, once defended the scheme based on his belief that farm workers in Lancaster County and tattoo artists in Philadelphia made comparable wage to state legislators.

If defeated in 2006 or 2008, Mr. Perzel's pension bounce will be at least **\$3,403.12 per year**.

"...In checking hundreds of receipts for 2005 at Perzel's campaign accounting office in Merchantville, N.J., News 8 found the speaker's campaign paid more than \$14,000 for three trips to Las Vegas. The charges included airfare, stays at 5-star hotels, expensive meals, such as one for 14 people, and drinks on a trip in the fall. The campaign paid a \$100 bill at the Four Seasons pool bar and reimbursed Brian Preski for 42 drinks in just 32 minutes one evening....The campaign also picked up a \$7,000 tab for a long weekend at the Hotel Hershey in June. More than \$4,000 of that is marked "John and Sheryl Perzel....Just two weeks later, the Perzel campaign paid for a July 4 weekend at Atlantic City -- more than \$1,400 at the expensive Borgata Hotel Casino...."

And the spending didn't end with travel. The speaker's campaign paid \$246 to a California winery. The campaign picked up the tab for \$1,100 in takeout delivered to Brian Preski's Philadelphia home, plus dozens of more expensive meals across the nation, including more than \$8,700 at a Philadelphia waterfront restaurant. Among the meals there, a dinner on July 7 with two checks totaling \$955, including hundreds in alcohol. Early that very morning, lawmakers in Harrisburg passed their controversial...pay raise.

(News 8 On Your Side government reporter [Ben Simmoneau](#) , June 14, 2006.)

- Rep. James **Roebuck** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise, took the money but told the Philadelphia Daily News, "I supported the pay raise, but it seems to me once you rescind it you should give it back" (February 27, 2006).

- Rep. Ken **Ruffing** (D-Allegheny) Voted for the raise, took the money and did not pay it back. RocktheCapital.org called his office (787-4591) on May 3, 2006. Ruffing, who was on the House floor, did not return the call.

Mr. Ruffing refused to disclose the Autistic charities he donated the "unvouchered expenses" after the *Pittsburgh Post -Gazette* contacted several organizations and claimed they had not received any money from Rep. Ruffing.

Rep. Ruffing was **defeated in the primary**.

- Rep. Mike **Sturla** (D-Lancaster) has not repaid his raise. His raise cost taxpayers more than **\$5,100**. If Mr. Sturla is defeated this year or in 2008, his pension will increase by at least **\$816.16** annually.

- Rep. John **Taylor** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.

- Rep. W. Curtis **Thomas** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money.

- Rep. Mike **Veon** (D-Beaver), unrepentant Minority Whip, voted for the pay raise and opposed the repeal. If he is defeated in 2006 or 2008, his pension bump will be at least **\$2,280.74** per year

Mr. Veon has already cashed in with **\$45,595 in per diem reimbursements for 2004 – 05**. (*Pittsburgh Tribune*, April 30, 2006.) Mr. Veon billed tax payers for \$122,563 in expenses last year including \$24,904 on commercial transportation, \$14,527 on vehicle related costs and \$7,800 to lease a vehicle. (*Beaver County Times*, June 28, 2006.)

A small Beaver County development agency has spun into a \$10.6 million outfit controlled by a powerful Democratic lawmaker and financed exclusively by Pennsylvania taxpayers.

In the case of the Beaver Initiative for Growth, the power lies exclusively with state Rep. Michael Veon, of Beaver Falls -- the second-ranking Democrat in the House -- and state Sen. Gerald LaValle, of Rochester, another veteran Democrat (*Tribune Review*, February 26, 2006)

- Rep. Ronald **Waters** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise, voted to repeal the raise and took the money. "From what I understand the legislation doesn't ask for that, but if my constituents want me to give the money back that's what I'll do," said state Rep. Ronald Waters, D-191, who represents portions of Southwest Philadelphia and the Borough of Yeadon (*Delco Times*, November 11, 2005).
- Rep. Don **Walko**, D-Allegheny) voted for the raise and took the money. Did not return message left at his office (787-5470) on May 3, 2006.
- Rep. Jake **Wheatley** (D-Allegheny) voted for the raise and took the money. "No," said Rep. Jake Wheatley, D-Hill District, when asked if he'd give back the \$5,151 he's gotten from the raise so far. (*Tribune-Review*, Wednesday, November 16, 2005).

Wheatley did not return a message left at his office (783-3783) on May 3, 2006. Capitol office response to an inquiry from RocktheCapital.org on May 3, 2006: "You can e-mail him at jwheatley@pahouse.net."
- Rep. Jewell **Williams** (D-Philadelphia) "I'm going to give it back when a bill is passed that says we have to give it back." (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, December 1, 2005).
- Rep. Rosita **Youngblood** (D-Philadelphia) voted for the raise and took it: "I work almost seven days a week," Youngblood said. She says she dips into her own pocket to help constituents when they do not have money for such necessities as food or air conditioners and will continue to do so. (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 02, 2005).

*The following House Members claim they **donated the “unvouchered expenses”** to charity. However, since the money was not refunded, these legislators are eligible for a **pension boost** if they retire or are defeated at the ballot box in 2006 or 2008.*

- Rep. David **Argall** (R-Schuylkill) said he donated all of his voucher cash to the United Way (*Morning Call*, Harrisburg Bureau, November 17, 2005).

Mr. Argall told the *Republican Herald*- that he reported the **\$7,000** as income and took a deduction on his federal tax for the charitable donation”

- Rep. Paul **Costa** (D-Allegheny) said he had not considered whether he would return the unvouchered expense, saying he already had paid taxes on it and had given away at least some of the money to charities such as the food bank. "I haven't thought about that yet," Costa said when asked whether he would give back the money. "I gotta talk to my wife about it. She gets the paycheck." (*Tribune-Review*, Wednesday, November 16, 2005).

A member of his staff told RTC on May 3, 2006 that the entire amount had been refunded.

- Rep. Bill **DeWeese** (D-Greene) Minority Leader, supported the pay raise and demoted party members in leadership positions who voted against the pay raise.

“Among state lawmakers, no one uses the planes more often than Rep. Bill DeWeese, D-Greene. He flew on them 11 times last year and twice this year -- at a total cost of nearly **\$24,000.**” (*Tribune Review*, December 1, 2005).

And, Mr. DeWeese can access a **\$13 million “special leadership account”** to fly to Santa Barbara, California pay a personal driver, or spend **\$149,105** on advertising or **\$254,722** on consulting fees. (*Herald-Standard*, May 12, 2006.)

Mr. DeWeese received over **\$13,000 in “unvouchered expenses”** and sent **eight \$ 1,000 checks** to each school district in Greene County and paid **\$5,000 in federal income taxes.**

If defeated in 2006 or 2008, Mr. DeWeese’s pension bounce will be at least **\$3,386.00** per year.

- Rep. Russ **Fairchild** (R-Union) noted on May 3, 2006 in an interview with RTC that the proceeds of the “unvouchered expenses” he accepted were donated to local charities in his district and made public.

- Rick **Geist** (R-Blair): "To avoid a situation of pay inequity amongst the members of the different legislative bodies, the unvouchered expense allowances were used." Mr. Geist donated the money to charity including his church.

During an interview with RocktheCapitol.org, regarding the pay raise, Geist claimed it was done constitutionally and he said all the courts' back him on this.

Mr. Geist insisted that taking "unvouchered expenses" in anticipation of the pay raise was proper. When asked, "Why did you return the money?" (we've been told he has returned the unvouchered expenses) his answer was unclear. He intimated that he gave the money to his church before he had actually taken it from the taxpayers. When pressed him to clarify, he became indignant and refused to clarify anything. (Meeting with Geist and John McGinnis, Altoona, February 27, 2006).

- Rep. Gary **Haluska** (D-Cambria) voted no but took the raise. Capitol office (787-3532) refereed RTC to the district office at 814-674-8939 on May 3, 2006. Mr. Haluska told RocktheCapital.org that he donated the entire amount to local food banks as he did in 1995 when he first arrived in the House.

- Rep. Tom **Petrone** (D-Allegheny) donated the **\$972.90** he received per month to charitable causes, ranging from a memorial fund for a constituent killed in Iraq to the Red Cross and Meals on Wheels. (*Tribune-Review*, November 30, 2005).

- Rep. Chris **Sainato** (D-Lawrence) voted no but took the raise, kept the money and was removed from his subcommittee chair. Sainato said he initially promised the money to the New Castle Playhouse for a scholarship fund (vindy.com Sunday, November 20, 2005).

Rep. Santio collected \$49,140 **in per diems from 2004-2005** for 369 work days. (*Pittsburgh Tribune*, April 30, 2006.)

- Rep. Stephen **Stetler** (D-York) collected \$9,189 and said that he had no plans to pay it back. He was not in his Capitol office Thursday and did not return two calls to his district office. (*York Dispatch* December 2, 2005).

Mr. Stetler donated the money to undisclosed charities, but because the "unvouchered expenses" were not returned, should Mr. Stetler lose reelection in 2006 or 2008, his annual pension could increase by as much **\$2,183.49**.

*The following House Members are **retiring** or failed to qualify for the primary ballot and have either donated the money to charity or refused to return the “unvouchered expenses.” Both options assure a **pension boost** after retirement:*

- Rep. Linda **Bebko-Jones** (D- Erie) took the pay raise and will receive a pension boost. "If I got the pay raise [**\$4,280**], it gets built into my pension," Bebko-Jones said. "It wasn't revoked before we got it. And just like in the private sector, if you get a pay raise, obviously your pension is going to go up. All the repeal did is to stop us from getting any continuing pay raises," she said. (*Erie Times*, April 29, 2006).

- Rep. Kevin D. **Blaum** (D-Luzerne) as minority caucus secretary, the fourth highest-ranking party job, Mr. Blaum was flown from Iowa to Harrisburg (**\$716**) courtesy of Mr. DeWees and “his” leadership account on November 7 to vote on the pay raise repeal. (*Herald Standard*, May 12, 2006.)

Mr. Blaum who voted for the pay raise, saw his salary escalate to \$106,986 a year, during the four months the raise was in effect. Mr. Blaum is eligible for a **pension bounce**.

- Rep. Alan L. **Butkovitz** (D-Philadelphia) got a new job as as Philadelphia city controller, and currently receives **\$2,006 a month** for 15 years of service in the house.

- Rep. Gaynor **Cawley** (D- Lackawanna) is eligible for pension bounce and was the **largest recipient of per diems from 2004-2005 totaling \$53,030**.

The top recipient for per diems over the he past two years has been Rep. Gaynor Cawley, received **\$53,030 in per diems for 412** “working days.” (*Pittsburgh Tribune*, April 30, 2006.)

- Rep. Thomas C. **Corrigan Sr.** (D.-Bucks) will retire with an extra **\$1,280** after taking the **\$3,801** pay raise. (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, March 26, 2006.)

- Rep. Jacqueline R. Crahalla (R- Montgomery) is retiring with a **\$190 pension bounce for taking the pay raise**. After **four years** of service, she’ll **receive \$8,500** annually. (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, March 26, 2006.)

- Rep. Robert J. **Flick** (R-Chester) will collect an **annual pension of \$51,830**, or an additional **\$1,900 per year for not refunding** the “unvouchered expenses.”

- Rep. Michael C. **Gruitza** (D-Mercer) spent the raise on **chimney work**. "It's not worth the aggravation," Gruitza said. "I feel bad that there is a sense out there that you are just trying to take care of yourself, when all these years my main priority has been helping others" (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, December 1, 2005).
- Rep. Jeffrey Earl **Habay** (R- Allegheny) voted "no" on the pay-raise bill but accepted "unvouchered expenses" so that he could collect the extra money immediately. As a convicted felon forcing his legislative staff to perform campaign work while on state time, **Mr. Habay received a pension bounce and collected \$854 per month**. He donated the money to charity.
- Rep. George C. **Hasay** (R-Luzerne) will realize a **pension bounce of \$5,400 up to \$77,600** for taking the money.
- Rep. Marie A. **Lederer** (D- Philadelphia) is retiring after 14 years and will receive an **additional \$1,100 for taking the pay raise**. (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, March 26, 2006.)
- Rep. Victor John **Lescovitz** (D-Washington & Allegheny) will realize an annual pension boost of **\$1,339.00**.
- Rep. Sheila **Miller** (R-Berks) accepted the pay raise and will **enjoy a pension bounce**.
- Rep. William W. **Rieger** (D-Philadelphia) will see a bounce of **\$5,400** for an annual pension of **\$77,600**. (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, March 26, 2006.)
- Rep. Lawrence **Roberts** (D-Fayette) will realize an annual **pension boost of \$721**.
- Rep. T.J. **Rooney** (D-Northampton) took the money and **pension bonus and will not pay the "unvouchered expenses" back unless the Supreme Court** deems the measure unconstitutional. "The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has taken another view on several occasions. Until the Supreme Court tells me differently, I will follow the law of Pennsylvania." (*Morning Call Harrisburg Bureau*, November 17, 2005).
- Rep. Larry O. **Sather** (R-Blair & Huntingdon): "You would have to call the district office at 814-643-9633." Response from district office: "Representative Sather is not even running for reelection and I would not even dignify you by responding." (May 3, 2006).
- Rep. James **Shaner** (D-Fayette) voted "no" on the pay-raise bill but accepted "unvouchered expenses" so that he could collect the extra money immediately.

He donated the pay to charity. His annual pension boost as a result of taking the money is **\$456**.

- Rep. Thomas M. **Tigue** (D-Luzerne) voted for the pay raise, took the money, voted to repeal the pay raise and will retire with an **annual pension of \$61,572**.

- Rep. Elinor Z. **Taylor** (R-Chester) donated her raise of approximately **\$12,000** to charity and will experience a **\$9,500 pension bounce**.