

MOLINARO: REPEAL NEW FEE, GROW JOBS

Surcharge on small businesses should be eliminated immediately

Economic growth and sustainability - partnering with the private sector to grow jobs - is my top priority. High taxes, more fees and overly burdensome regulations will continue to make us less competitive and our economy will not rebound.

We must do all we can to lower the cost of doing business and enable the private sector to grow jobs. Last week, I joined Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb in calling on the Governor to repeal a new statewide fee on small business job creators. The Department of Labor's new unemployment insurance (UI) interest assessment surcharge is another burden on small businesses and overburdened taxpayers.

Small businesses are the key to getting our economy back on track. They have been paying excess taxes and fees for too long and now we are in a position to relieve some of their burden and help foster job security and even growth.

The interest assessment surcharge is a fee imposed on all businesses by the New York State Department of Labor. It covers a \$95 million interest payment on federal loans to the state's UI trust fund to pay unemployed workers. In the past the United States Congress enacted legislation to make federal loans to state UI trust funds interest free; unfortunately, Congress has not yet taken action to continue this policy.

Our number-one priority in New York has to be job creation and we need to do everything we can for the businesses that will create new private-sector jobs. An elimination of the new fee on our job creators would be a positive step toward improving the hostile business climate in New York State.

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Assemblyman Marc Molinaro, once America's youngest mayor, served twelve years as Mayor of the Village of Tivoli in Dutchess County. He served concurrently as a member of the Dutchess County Legislature from 2000 until 2006, when he was elected to represent the 103rd Assembly District. As a County Legislator, Molinaro served as Chairman of the Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee where he was responsible for stewardship of the county's \$400 million budget adoption. In 2010, Assemblyman Marc Molinaro served on Governor Andrew Cuomo's Transition Team. This year, Marc was appointed by Assembly Republican Leader Brian Kolb as Assistant Minority Leader Pro Tempore and the Republican Conference's representative on Governor Cuomo's Mandate Relief and Redesign Team.