



Pay Raise Class of 2005

Background and Timeline

July 2005:

7/7/05: The Pennsylvania House and Senate passed Act 44 at 2 a.m., increasing the salaries of officials in all three branches of government without public hearings, public debate or public knowledge.

Governor Edward G. Rendell signed the bill that evening, and told the media the following day, "It's legal ['unvouchered expenses'] and that's all I'm going to say about it."

Base Salaries in July, 2005 for the rank and file excluding, per diems, perks, PSAs, pensions and paid health insurance was \$69,648.

The pay raise "...increased legislators' base pay to \$81,050 - more than any other state except California - and most lawmakers received more money because of expanded stipends in the bill for leadership or committee posts. Individual members saw raises ranging from 16 to 54 percent." [1]

November 2005:

11/16/05: As a result of public pressure, the General Assembly passed and Gov. Rendell signed Act 72 of 2005 repealing the raise. Act 72 did not require those who had received increased salaries to return the funds.

In total, 158 lawmakers accepted the raise. Numerous legislators have opted not to repay the "unvouchered expenses" or donated the money to charity. These amounts can be applied toward pension calculations and verified through the State Employees Retirement System.

September 2006:

9/14/06: The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that "unvouchered-expenses" violated the state constitution, but did not order recipients to pay the money back. The Court also reinstated the pay raises for themselves and approximately 1,200 judges.

House of Representatives

Active Members of the House: (16)

- **Louise Williams Bishop**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Mark Cohen**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Angel Cruz**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Dwight Evans** (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Gary Haluska**, (D-Cambria)
- **Rep. Bill Keller** (D-Philadelphia),
- **Rep. Thaddeus Kirkland**,(D-Delaware)
- **Rep. Phyllis Mundy** (D-Kingston)
- **Rep. John Myers** (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Chris Sainato** (D-Lawrence)
- **Rep. Edward Staback**, (D-Lackawanna)
- **Rep. Mike Sturla**, (D-Lancaster)
- **Rep. John Taylor**, (R-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. W. Curtis Thomas**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Ronald Waters**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Rosita Youngblood**, (D-Philadelphia)

Deceased: (5)

- **Rep. Linda Bebko-Jones**, (D-Erie)
- **Rep. Robert Donatucci**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. William W. Rieger**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. James Shaner**, (D-Fayette)
- **Rep. Elinor Z. Taylor** (R-Chester)

Gaming Control Board Member: (1)

- **Rep. Keith McCall**, (D-Carbon)

Incarcerated: Forfeited pension: (4)

- **Rep. Bill DeWeese**, (D-Greene)
- **Rep. John Perzel**, (R-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Steven Steteler**, (D-York)
- **Rep. Mike Veon**, (D-Beaver)

Possible “Pension Bounce”: (16)

- **Rep. Kevin D. Blaum**, (D-Luzerne)
- **Rep. Gaynor Cawley**, (D- Lackawanna)
- **Rep. Thomas C. Corrigan, Sr.**, (D-Bucks)
- **Rep. Jacqueline R. Crahalla**, (R- Montgomery)
- **Rep. Robert Flick**, (R-Chester)
- **Rep. Teresa Forcier**, (R-Crawford)
- **Rep. George C. Hasay**, (R-Luzerne)
- **Rep. Frank LaGrotta**, (D-Lawrence)
- **Rep. Marie A. Lederer**, (D- Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Victor John Lescovitz**, (D-Washington & Allegheny)
- **Rep. Stephen Maitland**, (R-Adams)
- **Rep. Sheila Miller**, (R-Berks)
- **Rep. Lawrence Roberts**, (D-Fayette)
- **Rep. T.J. Rooney**, (D-Northampton)
- **Rep. Ken Ruffing**, (D-Allegheny)
- **Rep. Thomas M. Tigue**, (D-Luzerne)

Retired, resigned or defeated: (8)

- **Rep. Fred Belardi**, (D-Lackawana)
- **Rep. Tommie Blackwell**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Todd Eachus**, (D-Luzerne)
- **Rep. Harold James**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Rick Geist**, (R-Blair)
- **Rep. Babette Josephs**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Frank Oliver**, (D-Philadelphia)
- **Rep. Jewell Williams**, (D-Philadelphia)

Senate

In the Senate, five sitting members kept “unvouchered expenses” including David Argall (R-Schuylkill), Vincent J. Hughes (D-Philadelphia), Shirley M. Kitchen (D-Philadelphia), Christine Tartaglione (D-Philadelphia), and Anthony H. Williams (D-Philadelphia.)

Three senators who paid the money back, former-Sen. Vince Fumo and Sen. Joseph Scarnatti, and Sen. John Wozniak, owe the IRS imputed interest payments.

Charles D. Lemmond (R-Luzerne) passed away on November 30 2006 and former Sen. Robert Thompson, (R-Chester County) passed away on January 8, 2006.

In the Senate, repayments were made through salary reduction, and can be verified through a request with the Chief Clerk’s office. The following senators did not return the pay raise:

- **David Argall**, (R-Schuylkill) **Owes \$7,000.00**
- **Vincent J. Hughes**, (D-Philadelphia) **Owes \$7,708.54**
- **Shirley M. Kitchen**, (D-Philadelphia) **Owes \$7,708.54**
- **Robert J. Mellow**, (D-Lackawana) **Owes \$13,380.56**
- **Raphael J. Musto**, (D-Luzerne) **Owes \$7,708.54**
- **Christine Tartaglione**, (D-Philadelphia) **Owes \$7,708.54**
- **Anthony H. Williams**, (D-Philadelphia) **Owes \$7,708.54**

Retired or voted out in 2006

House: (46)

- **Bob Allen.**
- **Gibson Armstrong.**
- **Roy Baldwin.**
- **Linda Bebko-Jones.**
- **Fred Belardi.**
- **Jerry Birmelin.**
- **Kevin Blaum.**
- **Raymond Bunt.**
- **Gaynor Cawley.**
- **Susan Cornell.**
- **Thomas Corrigan.**
- **Jacqueline Crahalla.**
- **Michael Diven.**
- **Brett Feese.**
- **John Fichter.**
- **Shawn Flaherty.**
- **Pat Fleagle.**
- **Robert Flick.**
- **Teresa Forcier.**

- **Thomas Gannon.**
- **Matthew Good.**
- **Michael Gruitza.**
- **Lynn Herman.**
- **Frank LaGrotta,**
- **Marie Lederer.**
- **Dennis Leh.**
- **Victor Lescovitz.**
- **Stephen Maitland.**
- **Eugene McGill.**
- **Sheila Miller.**
- **Frank Pistella.**
- **William Rieger.**
- **Larry Roberts.**
- **T.J. Rooney.**
- **Kenneth Ruffing.**
- **Larry Sather.**
- **Paul Semmel.**
- **Jim Shaner.**
- **Bruce Smith.**
- **Steve Stetler.**

- **Thomas Stevenson.**
- **Elinor Taylor.**
- **Thomas Tigue.**
- **Rod Wilt.**
- **Matthew Wright.**
- **Peter Zug.**

Senate: (4)

- **David "Chip" Brightbill.**
- **Robert Jubelirer.**
- **Charles Lemmond.**
- **Noah Wenger.**