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Mike Kelly's September Third District E-Newsletter

Dear Friend,

When it comes to the debate over taxes in America, the American people have not been told the full story: they've been sold a bill of goods.

As part of his deficit reduction plan released this month, President Obama proposed raising taxes by \$1.5 trillion over the next 10 years, offering about \$3 dollars in tax hikes for every \$1 in spending cuts.

As I have said time and again, Washington has a spending problem, not a tax revenue problem, which is why both Democrats and Republicans, within the House and the Senate, have rejected the president's previous attempts to raise taxes on America's job creators.

In fact, the president himself has spoken *against* raising taxes on numerous occasions. In August 2009, President Obama said, "Normally, you don't raise taxes in a recession, which is why we haven't and why we've instead cut taxes. So I guess what I'd say is ... you don't raise taxes in a recession. We haven't raised taxes in a recession."

As part of his continued campaign *against* tax increases, on December 17, 2010, the president signed into law a

two-year extension of the Bush-era tax cuts, calling the bipartisan supported bill, "a package of tax relief that will protect the middle class, that will grow our economy and will create jobs for the American people."

So why is the president insisting on tax increases now? If it wasn't good for the economy in 2009 and 2010, it surely can't be good for us now, as we remain in the throes of a deep recession with a 9.1 percent unemployment rate and a stagnant economy.

Instead of creating certainty for the private sector, President Obama has created confusion, offering short-term fixes instead of long-term reforms that will foster the type of environment we need for sustained economic growth.

The Associated Press ran a "Fact Check" article about some of the justifications President Obama offered for raising taxes on job creators.

While the president said it's "hard to argue" against the idea that "middle-class families shouldn't pay higher taxes than millionaires and billionaires," the AP reported that, "the data tell a different story."

The AP article continued, "On average, the wealthiest people in America pay a lot more taxes than the middle class or the poor, according to private and government data. They pay at a higher rate, and as a group, they contribute a much larger share of the overall taxes collected by the federal government." ([CLICK HERE to read the full article](#)).

There is no doubt that we need to reform and flatten our tax code by getting rid of unfair loopholes to create a more level playing field. That should be done and it's what House Republicans and I voted to do when passing our 2012 budget and other pro-growth legislation.

What we do not need are job-crushing tax rate hikes that will prevent job creators from hiring and getting Americans back to work.

I will continue my efforts to ensure that Washington works with, not against, America's job creators, and that Americans remain united in our cause for a stronger and more prosperous nation.

Sincerely,

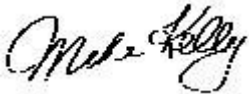
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.



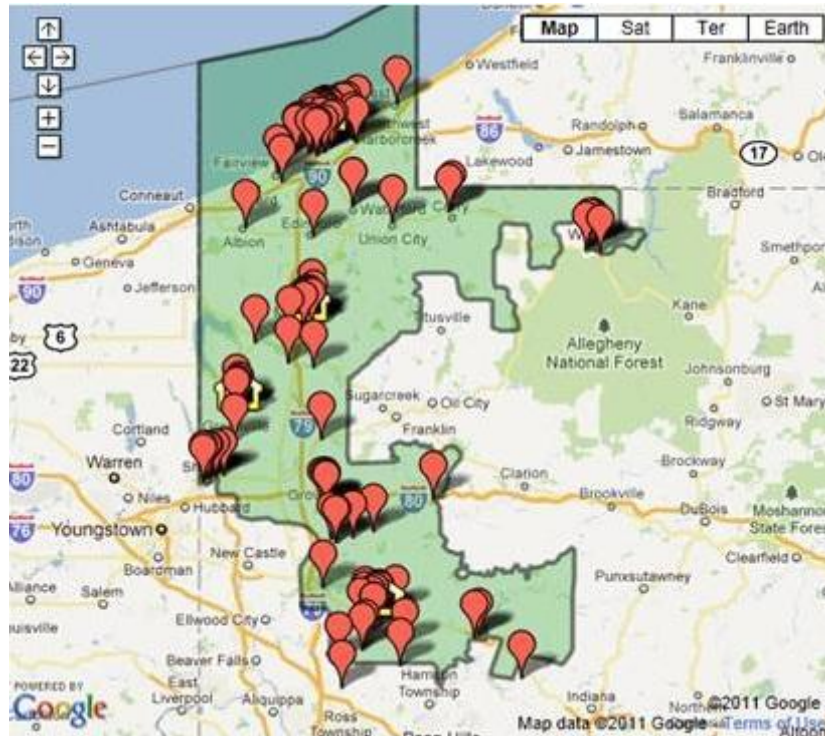
Photo: Rep. Mike Kelly talks with constituents at Grove City College during the September 1 "Ask Mike" public forum.

[Poll question: Do you agree with President Obama's plan to raise tax rates for individuals and job creators earning \\$200,000 or more a year?](#)

Tracking Mike's Travels throughout the Third District

Over the August recess, Mike met with constituents throughout the Third District, attending events in Erie, Mercer, Butler, Sharon, Crawford, and Armstrong counties, including public forums at Grove City College and Butler Community College. At each event, constituents shared their concerns about the economy and what Washington is doing to help get Americans back to work.

Please [visit our website](#) to see our new interactive map, which "pinpoints" where Mike has traveled throughout the district.



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE NEW MAP](#)

September 11 Anniversary

Ten years ago, America and the world watched in horror as nearly 3,000 innocent lives were lost in the brutal terrorist attacks of September 11.

In the wake of this great tragedy, our nation stood united, vowing, "Never Again."

The fact that there has not been an attack on American soil since that fateful September day is a testament to the resolve of the American people, and the brave members of our military, law enforcement, intelligence community, border security, and countless others who have worked tirelessly to keep our country safe.

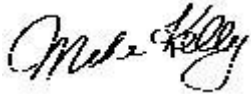
Our freedom is not, and never has been, free. Since the days of our founding, Americans have risked life and limb for the greater good, laying down their lives so that others might be free.

A new kind of war was waged against America on September 11, and instead of waiting for another attack on our soil, our brave men and women in uniform took the fight to the enemy, engaging in battle in two distant lands.

Making the ultimate sacrifice, more than 6,000 men and women fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq died in defense of our freedom, and to them and their families we are eternally grateful.

To best honor their memory, and the memory of those who perished on September 11, let us renew our vow of "Never Again," remaining vigilant in the face of continued threats and ever-mindful of the price that so many have paid for our enduring freedom.

May God continue to bless and heal America.



Mike Kelly

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