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'Tool Kit' Roundup

Wednesday, November 17, 2010 • Tags: [Other](#)

Following Union City Mayor Brian P. Stack's call for action on the Governor's 'Tool Kit', Jersey Journal's Melissa Hayes reported that, "In a Democratic-controlled county [Hudson County], mayors are welcoming Republican Gov. Chris Christie's 'tool kit' reforms with open toolboxes"...

Kearny Mayor Al Santos:

"...said he hopes the measures are implemented, especially arbitration reform." (Melissa Hayes, "Most of Hudson County's mayors would welcome having Christie's proposed 'tool kit' to work with in attempts to rein in property taxes," Jersey Journal, 11/17/2010)

Weehawken Mayor Richard Turner

"...said arbitration reform is long overdue..." (Melissa Hayes, "Most of Hudson County's mayors would welcome having Christie's proposed 'tool kit' to work with in attempts to rein in property taxes," Jersey Journal, 11/17/2010)

Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer:

"Zimmer applauded Stack's support of the legislation. "Mayors need to stand together to fight for what is best for our cities," she said yesterday." (Melissa Hayes, "Most of Hudson County's mayors would welcome having Christie's proposed 'tool kit' to work with in attempts to rein in property taxes," Jersey Journal, 11/17/2010)

Jersey City Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy:

"...said that without the proposed reforms it will be near impossible to stay within the 2 percent cap without "causing a further reduction in services, which will hamper effective and efficient government." (Melissa Hayes, "Most of Hudson County's mayors would welcome having Christie's proposed 'tool kit' to work with in attempts to rein in property taxes," Jersey Journal, 11/17/2010)

Opinion makers continue to highlight that the reforms in the 'Tool Kit' are wanted and needed by both Democrats and Republicans...

Daily Record, "...the Speaker would do better to concentrate on the future. And that means finding ways to get the tool kit adopted":

"Every day, it seems, Gov. Chris Christie's office issues press releases about the progress, or lack thereof, that the Legislature is making with the governor's so-called tool kit, a 33-bill package to reform property taxes in New Jersey. On Tuesday, the release noted that there were "only 35 days" left in this year's Legislative session to enact the reforms. Tuesday's release highlighted support for the tool kit from state Sen. Brian Stack, D-Hudson...Sheila Y. Oliver, the Assembly Speaker, recently described property taxes as a "tax without a conscience"...If that's the case, why not pass the tool kit?...Passing Christie's reforms are not going to suddenly reduce property taxes. But we will be moving in the right direction...In a recent op-ed column, Oliver gives lukewarm support to Christie's ideas...the Speaker would do better to concentrate on the future. And that means finding ways to get the tool kit adopted." ("Stop playing with the 'tool kit,' - pass it," Daily Record, 11/17/2010)

Former Assembly Speaker Joseph Roberts Jr., a Camden County Democrat, "...We should get the balance of the proposed "tool box" reforms passed":

"...We should get the balance of the proposed "tool box" reforms passed. Granted, Gov. Chris Christie's reforms borrow from measures introduced by legislators on both sides of the aisle over the past decade. That should only underscore the need for expeditious action on most of the bills he has proposed. The Legislature's enactment of an improved cap on property taxes was significant; now, there should be action on overhauling our civil service rules, reforming the arbitration process and strengthening the executive county school superintendents positions created four years ago." (Joseph Roberts Jr, "To cut costs, Gov. Christie's toolbox just a start," Star-Ledger Guest Columnist, 11/16/2010)

Home News Tribune, Many Camden County Democratic government officials wishlist of ideas "ended up on Christie's tool kit list":

"...more than 30 ideas Democratic county government officials in Camden County put on a wishlist of ideas to help them save tax dollars. They quietly circulated their list among state legislators more than a year ago, hoping for support. Many

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of their ideas, almost word for word, ended up on Christie's tool kit list." ("Lawmakers must clear away barriers to consolidation," Home News Tribune, 11/14/2010)

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