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Anti-Tax Coalition responds to Commonwealth Court ruling on Philadelphia Beverage Tax

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The Ax the Philly Bev Tax coalition has issued the following statement in response to today's Commonwealth Court ruling on Philadelphia's beverage tax:

"We are deeply disappointed in today's ruling. But no ruling can obscure the pain Philadelphia's beverage tax continues to inflict on families and local businesses. After only five and a half months, this tax has already caused many Philadelphians to lose their jobs – and more are at stake. Philadelphia grocers are also being forced to reduce employee hours and lay off workers. Some are in danger of closing, threatening the city's efforts to increase access in food deserts. This tax has also caused prices to skyrocket on thousands of beverages, which in turn has forced hard-working families to pay drastically higher prices.

"At the same time, the administration is now confirming what we've been saying all along – this tax is not a sustainable source of revenue for the city. Reality is finally catching up with the mayor's inflated projections, and the tax has yet to achieve its full collections target. That's why the city is once again moving the goalposts by reducing revenue projections in the coming months. Mayor Kenney and City Council should join the more than 60 percent of Philadelphia voters who oppose the beverage tax – as well as the voters in Santa Fe who recently rejected similar levies. It's time to bring the harm this tax has caused to an end."

The Ax the Philly Bev Tax Coalition is a partnership between Philadelphia families and businesses negatively impacted by the city's new regressive beverage tax. For more information visit www.axthebevtax.com.

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