



Philadelphia 10 percent short on April beverage tax collections

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The Ax the Philly Bev Tax Coalition has issued the following statement after beverage tax collections in April came in 10 percent short of projections:

“The nearly 10 percent shortfall in beverage tax collections for April highlights what we have been saying all along: this tax is not a sustainable source of revenue for the city. Even after moving the goal posts by issuing several different sets of revenue projections in recent months, the administration fell far short of its goal to collect \$7.7 million in April.

“This is particularly significant because April was the first month city officials predicted they would achieve full beverage tax collection rates – as opposed to several months of ramp up with artificially low projections. It is also troubling because the Kenney administration has said it will no longer release preliminary tax collection numbers – even as collections begin to lag expectations.

“These latest numbers highlight the flaws in this flawed and failed tax, which is costing jobs, raising prices for working families and hurting local businesses. Mayor Kenney and City Council should join the nearly 60 percent of Philadelphia voters who oppose the beverage tax. It’s time to bring the harm this tax has caused to an end and find a sustainable set of options.”

The Ax the 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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