



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**PFF Coalition Member PASNAP Releases
Statement on Container Tax**

Philadelphia, May 19, 2016 – Philadelphians for a Fair Future Coalition member PASNAP (Pennsylvania Association of Nurses and Allied Professionals) releases the following statement on the container tax proposal introduced in City Council today.

“The proposed container tax would have regressive health and economic effects on our members and the patients we serve,” said Patricia Eakin, RN, PASNAP President. “The proposed legislation would exempt bottles of alcohol but would provide no exclusion for bottled water or health supplements. And, even if those exemptions were made, the tax will likely still encourage increased consumption of sugary drinks as people will try to minimize the impact of the tax by buying larger containers.”

“Additionally, unlike the sugary drink tax, the container tax is unavoidable because it includes so many types of food items. It's truly the grocery tax.

“The container tax is a distraction and we strongly oppose it. The sugary drinks tax raises a larger and more reliable income stream and is cheaper to collect. It has the added benefit of helping reduce conditions like obesity and diabetes, thus improving the quality of life of Philadelphians and driving down health costs.

“It is time for Council to do the right thing for their constituents and vote yes for the sugary drinks tax. Our children can't wait any longer for a chance at a good education.”

About PFF

PFF now includes 81 partners whose members represent all walks of life in Philadelphia, including: Public Citizens for Children and Youth; the Philadelphia Parks Alliance; the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers; the Service Employees International Union; the Delaware

Valley Association for the Education of Young Children; Aspira; Action United; the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia; the Center for Science in the Public Interest; Lodge 5 of the FOP; Local 22, IAFF; District Councils 33 and 47, AFSCME; Universal Companies; and multiple small business owners from throughout the city.

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