



MEDIA ADVISORY

RI Center for Freedom Forms Pension Reform Analysis "Task Force"

Justin Katz to Serve as Outside Contributor

October 20, 2011

Providence, RI - The Rhode Island Center for Freedom and Prosperity announced today that it has formed a special pension Task Force, comprised of national experts on state pension and budget issues.

"What happens in Rhode Island will not stay in Rhode Island when it comes to pension reform", said Mike Stenhouse, CEO for the RI Center for Freedom. "What happens in our state is likely to set a national precedent when it comes to future public employee pension reform efforts in other states, and may be opposed by powerful national forces. Our task force will provide a valuable national perspective to our local, statewide debate".

The Task Force members, who will provide commentary and analysis and who may also offer to testify at upcoming committee hearings in the General Assembly, include Bob Williams (President of State Budget Solutions), Jonathan Williams (Director Tax & Fiscal Policy for ALEC), Jagadeesh Gokhale (senior fellow at the CATO institute), and Eileen Norcross (senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center).

Additional bio information for Task Force members can be found on the Center's website at www.RIFreedom.org/pension-reform.

The RI Center for Freedom also announced that it played a central role in securing a panelist position for Josh Barro, a state budget expert from the Manhattan Institute, at the special pension forum to be conducted this Friday by the Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council (RIPEC).

The Center for Freedom is also pleased to announce that Justin Katz, founder of the popular Anchor Rising blog, will serve as an outside contributor to the Center. His initial blogs for the Center, analysis of the proposed pension reform bill, can be read on the organization's website: www.RIFreedom.org.

The Rhode Island Center for Freedom and Prosperity is the state's leading free-enterprise think tank. Firm in its belief that freedom is indispensable to citizens' well-being and prosperity, the Center for Freedom's mission is to restore competitiveness to Rhode Island through the advancement of market-based reform solutions.

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