

STATEMENT FROM WV DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN ON MISLEADING GOP ATTACKS

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – This week, WV Republican Party Chairman Mike Stuart leveled more misleading accusations about our state’s government budget and tax situation. This inaccurate attack is only the latest for Mike Stuart who, during his time as WV Republican Party Chair, has accumulated a number of misfired press statements.

A summary of WV Republican Party Chairman Mike Stuart’s reckless statements to the media are listed further below.

“Does the Republican Party really make so many mistakes in their press releases, or is this a pattern of misleading the public,” WV Democratic Party Chairman Larry Puccio quipped. “The real story about West Virginia is that we have enjoyed responsible government led by Democrats. We have been able to avoid the deep budget cuts and tax increases that most states are faced with. West Virginia’s responsible Democratic leadership has cut the food tax in half, paid down billions in debts for state retirement systems, cut business franchise taxes, and we are one of very few states that still has a surplus. West Virginia Democrats will continue to promote our state in a positive way, unlike the Republican Party which is always tearing us down and even calling us hicks.”

Feb. 21, 2011 – Stuart lobs incorrect accusations against Attorney General Darrell McGraw

<http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:ozYk5uSYn-4J:www.dailymail.com/topStories3/201102201250+gop+chair+attorney+general+ry+rivard&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us&client=firefox-a&source=www.google.com>

Oct. 7, 2010 – Stuart comments on the infamous NRSC ad that portrays West Virginians as hicks saying, “I have no problem with it whatsoever. It’s not going to be an issue here.” http://hotlineoncall.nationaljournal.com/archives/2010/10/nrsc_pulling_co.php

Sept. 24, 2010 – Stuart retracts press release critical of Patriot Coal’s Federal #2 mine http://www.politico.com/blogs/bensmith/0910/WVGOP_misquotes_WVGOP_chairman.html

March 2, 2011 - GOP Chair Stuart has also lambasted a bill to give modest raises to state employees (HB 2879) despite the fact that 15 Republican Delegates voted for the bill. Click here to view the roll call http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bulletin_Board/2011/RS/House/Votes/00193.pdf