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Contact: Anne Songcayauon, asongcayauon@workingfamilies.org

TRENTON- In response to the Senate and Assembly Leadership's counter budget proposal, which includes a "Mega Millionaires Tax" that fails to meet the needs of the state, a group of over 50 progressive women leaders issued the following statement:

"As members of the progressive community and leaders in our state, we are profoundly disappointed in Democratic leadership and their continued insistence on protecting and promoting the interests of millionaires over our communities and families. The tiny 'mega-millionaires tax' proposed today is merely ornamental. It leaves a gaping hole in our budget and and it's an insult to our communities. We reject the assertion of Senate and Assembly Leadership that this farcical proposal lives up to anyone's progressive values, and instead denounce these legislators for failing to represent the interests of their constituents or even fellow legislators. Their irresponsible actions have set us on the path towards a state government shutdown that will lock out tens of thousands of workers, and denies services to the public. The fact that the Senate has cancelled it's session tomorrow is more proof that the fault for such a state shutdown will lie squarely at the feet of the 'Democratic' legislature."

Alison Arne, Action Together New Jersey,
Atlantic County
Analilia Mejia, New Jersey Working Families
Alliance
Amy Higer, SOMA Action
Ann Vardeman, New Jersey Citizen Action
Anna Wong, Individual District 5
Atiya Boone
Ayesha Mughal, Central Jersey DSA
Carol Gaye, New Jersey State Industrial
Union Council
Carolyn Wade, CWA Local 1040
Collette Thompson, Community Baptist
Church, Englewood
Darlene M. Smith J.D.
Deb Huber, National Organization for
Women, NJ Chapter
Diana Mejia, Wind of the Spirit
Dolores Phillips, CWA Local 1089
Doris Lin, Progressive Caucus of NJDSC
Dr. Melani Wilkins
Elizabeth Meyer
Erin Chung, Women for Progress
Estina Baker, CWA District 1

Francine Ehret, CWA District 1
Grace Griffin, Community Baptist Church,
Englewood
Hetty Rosenstein, CWA District 1
Janice Fine
Jessica Shaw, SOMA Action
Joan Jones, Community Baptist Church,
Englewood
Karen White, AAUP
Karol Yorlany Ruiz, Esq., Wind of the Spirit
Lena Smith, Food and Water Watch
Lenace Edwards, 32BJ SEIU
Lillian Duggan, Westfield 20/20
Lillian Hawkins, SOMA Action
Linda Walker, Community Baptist Church,
Englewood
Lizette Delgado, Vice Chair of the
Democratic Party
Lizzie Foley
Lucye Millerand, URA- AFT 1766
Marci Bendelli, Westfield 20/20
Marcia Marley, Blue Wave NJ
Maura Collinsgru, New Jersey Citizen
Action

Melanie Vasa, North Jersey, DSA
Moiria Nelson, Action Together New Jersey
Mrs. Andrea Boone
Mrs. Dianne Ellison-Smith, Community
Baptist Church Englewood
Mrs. Joan Boone, Bergen County NAACP
Ms. Alisa Smith, Community Baptist Church,
Englewood
Ms. Carolyn Watson-Johnson,
Watson-Johnson Dance Theater, Ewing
Ms. Sher'le Boone, Bergen County NAACP
Ms. Vanessa La Garde
Phyllis Salowe Kaye, New Jersey Citizen
Action
Renee Koubiadis, Anti Poverty Network
Rev. Donna West, Mount Olive Baptist
Church
Rev. Ella Hayes, Mount Olive Baptist
Church

Robyn Gedrich
Rosi Effthim, Blue Jersey
Saily Avelenda, NJ 11th for Change
Sandra Gasque, Secretary of the Order of
the Eastern Star, Hackensack
Sara Cullinane, Esq., Make the Road New
Jersey
Sue Altman, South Jersey Women for
Progressive Change
Trina Scordo, New Jersey Communities
United
Winn Khuong, Action Together New Jersey