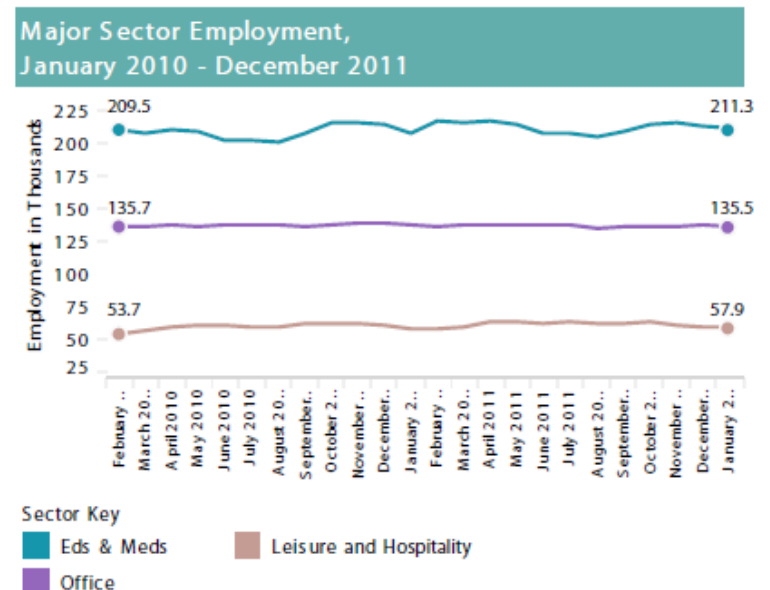


THE SIMS JOBS PLAN: LET'S GET TO WORK

CREATING JOBS, GROWING THE ECONOMY

I will fight to make sure that job creation is given more than just lip service in Harrisburg. The Legislature has failed to address the job crisis caused by the recession and regressive Republican policies have made it worse. In January 2012, Philadelphia's economy lost jobs in every sector (except manufacturing, adding only 100 positions). The Bureau of Labor Statistics shows a local economy stuck in neutral with 10.1% unemployment and stagnant employment numbers since February 2010 (see graph).¹ My plan capitalizes on Philadelphia's role in the global economy by developing energy efficiency policies and innovations to grow new green jobs, creating better incentives for high tech job growth, and fixing the Commonwealth's broken corporate tax structure.



Brian Sims' Three

Keys to Economic Growth

- * **Green Policies for Green Jobs**
- * **Better Incentives and Funding for High Tech Jobs**
- * **Fix the State's Broken Corporate Tax System**

¹ Center City Reports: Vital Statistics; March 2012; <http://centercityphila.org/docs/CCRvitalStats0312.pdf>

Green Policies, Green Jobs: innovation to implementation

Investing in energy efficient buildings may be one of the best ways to create local jobs. The Greater Philadelphia Innovation Cluster (GPIC) for Energy-Efficient Buildings is a consortium of academic institutions, federal laboratories, global industry partners, and regional economic development agencies that established an Energy Innovation Hub at the Navy Yard with \$130 million in federal grants. The goals of the GPIC are to transform the building retrofit industry, improve design tools, building systems, public policies, market incentives, and workforce skills needed to achieve a 50% reduction of energy use in buildings, and to stimulate private investment and quality job creation in Greater Philadelphia and beyond.²

We need to pass legislation that utilizes the innovations that are being developed at the GPIC and put them to use to create thousands of good, living-wage jobs that cannot be outsourced. The General Assembly can help take the GPIC's work to the next level by passing legislation for better energy efficiency policies³, including:

- * Increasing incentives to retrofit buildings and install energy efficiency systems
- * Enacting an energy efficient building code for Pennsylvania
- * Establishing a state tax credit for green roofs
- * Renewing and revamping the PA Sunshine Solar Rebate Program
- * Invest in revolving loan programs like the Energy Works Loan Fund

Examples of innovative retrofits and green construction in the 182nd District:

- **The Friends Center:** fossil-fuel free, zero carbon emissions, decreased stormwater runoff and 90% recycled materials used in LEED Platinum retrofit of a 150 year-old building⁴
- **The Four Seasons:** microturbines reharvest energy, 30% energy cost reduction⁵
- **The Comcast Center:** one of the tallest LEED certified buildings in the world⁶

² <http://gpichub.org/about/gpic-goals>

³ <http://gpichub.org/activities/policy/documents/commercial-impact.pdf>

⁴ http://www.friendscentercorp.org/?page_id=1115

⁵ <http://www.smartplanet.com/blog/pure-genius/at-the-four-seasons-philadelphia-green-is-always-in-season/1602>

Better Incentives and Funding for High Tech Jobs

Center City is home to nearly 40% of all the city's private-sector jobs. We are also the region's most significant employment center, with 10% of all jobs and 15% of all salaries.⁷ Our district transformed over the last 20 years to become the third-largest residential downtown in the nation.⁸ Our colleges and universities are nationally recognized hubs of innovation. With the right help from the legislature, our assets can be better utilized and leveraged to create more locally based businesses and jobs.

We can begin by ensuring the state programs already delivering proven results receive the vital funding they need to create jobs. Two of these programs are the Ben Franklin Technology Partners and the Commonwealth Universal Research Enhancement program.

Increase funding for the Ben Franklin Technology Partners

The Ben Franklin Technology Partners (BFTP) is a statewide economic development network providing assistance and resources to new and established companies using technology to drive business, accelerating innovation among researchers, entrepreneurs, and investors and creating new high wage jobs.⁹

A study by the Economy League of Greater Philadelphia showed that Pennsylvania's investment in early-stage technology and manufacturing companies has injected billions into the economy, returning \$3.50 for each \$1 spent and boosting the gross state product by \$9.3 billion.¹⁰ It also introduced more than 500 new products or processes developed in the Philadelphia region to the market.¹¹

⁶ <https://www.libertyproperty.com/pdfs/Comcast-Center-Sustainability.pdf>

⁷ Center City Reports: Philadelphia's Major Employment Nodes: Where City Residents Work; Sept. 2010; http://centercityphila.org/docs/CCR2010_employment.pdf

⁸ State of Center City Philadelphia 2011; <http://centercityphila.org/docs/SOCC2011.pdf>

⁹ <http://www.sep.benfranklin.org/news-announcements/sba-ilp-investment-by-ben-franklin-helps-novetas-solutions-create-jobs/>

¹⁰ <http://economyleague.org/node/1149>

¹¹ http://worldclassgreaterphila.org/uploads/media_items/world-class-greater-phila-focus-2026-report.original.pdf

Governor Corbett's 2011-2012 budget cut BFTP's funding by over 14% and has frozen funding for 2012-2013 at \$14.5 million¹². This is one of the most successful economic development programs in the nation, and cutting it's funding is impeding growth when we need it most. When elected, I will fight to not only restore the funding that the Corbett administration has cut but to invest more in BFTP. This program has a proven track record at creating growth and we need to build on what works.

Increase Commonwealth Universal Research Enhancement Grants

Last year Governor Corbett transferred \$324 million from the state's Tobacco Settlement Fund to the General Fund. The 2012-2013 budget news gets even worse: Corbett wants to redirect an additional \$59.1 million to eliminate funds the Commonwealth Universal Research Enhancement (CURE) program.¹³ CURE provides grants for broad-based clinical, health services, and biomedical research that improve Pennsylvanians' lives.¹⁴ Earlier this year for instance, the Wistar Institute in Philadelphia published a breakthrough study, partially funded by CURE, showing how the immune system can fight HIV infection if given the right boost.¹⁵

Cutting funding for CURE impedes scientific research in the state and puts at risk research that can save lives. Just like the Ben Franklin Technology Partners, I would fight Corbett's attempts to cut a program that is creating jobs and growth, and would advocating for increasing funding.

¹² <http://pennbpc.org/governors-2012-13-budget-numbers>

¹³ http://www.hacd.net/budget/201213/documents/TobaccoFund_BudgetBrief_031512-FINAL.pdf

¹⁴ <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=614483&mode=2>

¹⁵ http://www.eurekaalert.org/pub_releases/2012-03/twi-idh030212.php

Fix the State's Broken Corporate Tax System

As manufacturing moves into the 21st century, smart policies can help Philadelphia reestablish itself as a center for production. Specialized manufacturing still has an important place in our economy, and I will focus on creating the right incentives that welcome and keep these jobs here.

Pennsylvania's corporate net income (CNI) tax puts our homegrown businesses at a competitive disadvantage. Our 9.9% tax rate is the second-highest state corporate income tax rate in the country, and as many as 71% of corporations filing in Pennsylvania pay no CNI taxes at all because of the Delaware Loophole.¹⁶ In-state businesses pay the tax while many out of state companies avoid it.

Replacing the CNI with a Commercial Activity Tax (CAT) can help retain businesses, increase the number of jobs staying in Philadelphia and level the playing field for local businesses.¹⁷

The CAT taxes business activity by all firms selling into Pennsylvania's market (including corporations with only subsidiaries located here) at a broad-based, low-rate. This type of reform creates a broader tax base so smaller businesses operating solely in Philadelphia are not unfairly burdened.

Ohio has already implemented this type of tax reform in 2005 by eliminating its 8.5% corporate income tax and replacing it with a CAT.¹⁸ After six years, it has proved to be a significantly more stable revenue source and has allowed multinational companies including Goodyear and Procter & Gamble to expand operations in Ohio.¹⁹ Philadelphia was once the Workshop of the World, and if we stop putting our own businesses at a competitive disadvantage we can start boosting our manufacturing sector once again.

¹⁶ <http://pennbpc.org/sites/pennbpc.org/files/Philly%20Budget%20Summit%203-16-12.pdf>

¹⁷ <http://www.picpa.org/Content/42102.aspx>

¹⁸ <http://blog.ohiomeansbusiness.com/tag/commercial-activity-tax/>

¹⁹ <http://blog.clevelandplusbusiness.com/?p=363>

Conclusion: Getting to Work

The jobs of the future will be created somewhere, and we want those jobs right here in Philadelphia. We're a global city. We have the talent, we have the people, we have the desire. Now we need an advocate.

In Harrisburg I will fight for tax incentives and reforms that encourage young entrepreneurs to launch their start-ups here. I want green color jobs to flourish here. By enacting policies to create good green jobs, incentivizing high tech job growth and fixing Pennsylvania's broken corporate tax system, we can create the jobs we need right here in our district, and they can never be outsourced.