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Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

In this past week's edition of the Gazette, in the front page article entitled, "Double Challenge," (concerning Del. Scott Surovell and the upcoming election), it was incorrectly stated that I am in favor of implementing a tax system "that would put a heavier burden on taxes charged to retail sales on items such as milk, bread, and beer."

This is not true. What I actually said was: "We need to abolish the state income tax and replace it with a fair tax system— one that restores the understanding that the money we earn through employment is truly ours. By empowering the people of Virginia, and giving them more control over their own money, it would produce good economy – on an individual level – and I believe this would translate into good economy for local businesses."

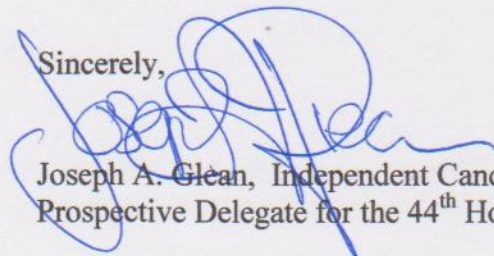
To be clear, the sort of tax I am referring to is one that would be assessed at the point of sale, allowing individuals to regulate their own level of participation based on their personal spending habits. Under such a tax system, certain commodities such as food and clothing would actually be exempt from the tax. In other words, there would be tax relief measures put in place— not for extravagant purchases, but for those who are truly and simply trying to make ends meet.

During my presentation before the chamber, I made absolutely no mention of "milk," "bread," or "beer," as the article seems to suggest. What I did say, however, is that: "We must support free access to wholesome / non-pasteurized / non-modified foods and dairy, and support sustainable agriculture and bio-dynamic farming."

I believe the lost rights of dairy farmers who wish to produce "raw" milk (as it is called) ought to be restored, along with the lost rights of consumers who wish to purchase such commodities. We must return to the type of self-determination and self-governance that was instituted by our founding generation, coupled with the true and simple understanding that good government begins at home.

In my opinion, there are additional errors contained in the article, including the false assertion that John Barsa is a "conservative." But I'm afraid I must allow them to pass for the sake brevity.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Glean, Independent Candidate
Prospective Delegate for the 44th House District