

# PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW

## **Corbett disputes claim that impact fee is tax**

By Brad Bumsted  
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HARRISBURG -- Washington anti-tax guru Grover Norquist and Republican Gov. Tom Corbett are parting company.

At least for now.

Corbett on Monday rejected Norquist's contention that a levy on Marcellus shale drillers in H.B. 1950, legislation based on the governor's plan, would be a tax. Corbett says it is a fee to cover government costs associated with drilling.

As a candidate for governor last year, Corbett took a no-tax pledge with Norquist's group, Americans for Tax Reform. It was a big part of Corbett's campaign.

In an open letter to lawmakers, Norquist said, "H.B. 1950 is a tax." The House last week approved the bill. A different bill is pending in the Senate.

"I disagree with his opinion," Corbett said during an appearance before the Pennsylvania Press Club. "I believe there are impacts on communities. This is an impact fee."

Corbett has stated repeatedly that most of the money should go to reimburse local governments for their costs for road repairs, municipal planning and expanded first-responder needs.

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