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Press Release
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Doherty stays silent on extending middle-class tax cuts

Providence, RI – Yesterday, while Republican congressional leaders took another step toward denying 98 percent of the nation a tax break, candidate Brendan Doherty remained silent on the issue – another stark example that his attempts to couch himself as bipartisan are merely rhetoric. The House Republicans voted Tuesday to defeat the Middle Class Tax Cut Act, after the Senate passed an identical version of the bill. The act would have extended Bush tax cuts for households earning up to \$250,000, which is 98 percent of Americans.

“We’ve seen a variety of opinions from Mr. Doherty on the Bush tax cuts,” said Bill Fischer, spokesperson for the Rhode Island Democratic Party. “When he made an appearance on *WPRI’s Newsmakers*, he proposed letting all of the tax breaks expire. When he was on *WJAR’s News Conference*, he indicated they should all be extended. Yesterday, when his Republican cronies in Washington were advocating raising taxes on 25 million middle-class families while preserving tax breaks for millionaires, Mr. Doherty was silent. He wants to protect millionaires, at the expense of the middle class.

“In his latest position, Mr. Doherty advocated that the Bush tax cuts should be extended to millionaires. He had to know this would kill the Senate measure extending tax breaks for 98 percent of Americans,” said Fischer. “The question remains, how would Mr. Doherty have voted yesterday? Would he have voted against the Middle Class Tax Cut Act, which Representatives Langevin and Cicilline voted for, and Senator Reed and Senator Whitehouse supported in the Senate – a bill that would have protected the middle class? The answer is sadly yes, because Mr. Doherty will be beholden to the Republican Party if he’s elected to Congress.”