

# James “The Big Selloutski” Oscarson

Assemblyman James Oscarson was elected in 2012 for the Assembly District 36 (Nye/Lincoln/Clark counties) seat left open after the retirement of conservative taxpayer champion Assemblyman Ed Goedhart.

Although Oscarson has deleted his 2012 campaign website from the Internet, we were able to access an archived version of it.

On the issue of “Taxes,” Oscarson stated plainly and clearly...

“Nevada families cannot afford to have their taxes and fees raised during this time.”

He got elected on that campaign promise.

He then proceeded to Carson City three short months later and broke his promise by voting for SB475, a \$600 million-plus tax hike!

Peter Livermore	Nay
Andrew Martin	Yea
Harvey Munford	Yea
Dina Neal	Yea
James Ohrenschild	Yea
James Oscarson	Yea
Peggy Pierce	Excused
Ellen Spiegel	Yea
Michael Sprinkle	Yea
Lynn Stewart	Yea
Heidi Swank	Yea
Tyrone Thompson	Yea
Jim Wheeler	Nay
Melissa Woodbury	Yea



Oscarson then ran for re-election in 2014...and again promised he wouldn't raise taxes.

According to the Moapa Valley Progress newspaper, AD36 constituent Tina Trenner said that “Oscarson had spoken to Pahrump Republicans and promised that he would not vote for the new tax.”

Trenner was referring to the proposed margins tax that was on the 2014 ballot that 85% of voters in the district voted against.

“He told us not to worry, that he would never vote for it,” Trenner said.

But Oscarson again went back to Carson City and AGAIN broke his word.

Harvey Munford	Yea
Dina Neal	Yea
Erven Nelson	Yea
Philip P.K. O'Neill	Yea
James Ohrenschild	Yea
James Oscarson	Yea
Victoria Seaman	Nay
Shelly Shelton	Nay
Stephen Silberkraus	Yea
Ellen Spiegel	Yea
Michael Sprinkle	Yea
Lynn Stewart	Yea



Worse, he was reportedly the deciding vote that approved the largest tax hike in Nevada history!

Republicans in the Assembly who were opposed to Gov. Brian Sandoval's proposed new margins tax – which he misleadingly renamed the “Commerce Tax” – needed 15 votes to block it. And Assemblyman Ira Hansen told the



Reno Gazette-Journal he was “within a vote” of getting the 15 he needed.

“Right after saying that,” the paper reported, “Assemblyman James Oscarson, R-Pharump, announced he was supporting Sandoval's tax plan.”

The Nevada Policy Research Institute confirmed the betrayal in a post-session wrap-up...

“Assembly members had been unified against implementing a gross receipts tax for three and a half months, but the governor soon got (Speaker John) Hambrick and (Majority Leader Paul) Anderson to buckle and support his new tax increase. Then word got out that Assemblyman James Oscarson, a Republican from Pahrump — one of the most conservative districts in Nevada — was going back on assurances he'd made to constituents and would now support the governor's tax plan.”

Worse, Oscarson voted for a total of 29 out of 32 tax/fee hikes during the same session!

1. Assembly Bill 78 – Increased the tax on elk hunting license applications
2. Assembly Bill 85 – Increased the tax on alcohol, drug and gambling counselors
3. Assembly Bill 115 – Increased the tax on certain healthcare providers
4. Assembly Bill 132 – Increased the tax on dissolving a domestic partnership
5. Assembly Bill 191 – Increased the tax on fuels for motor vehicles
6. Assembly Bill 231 – Increased the tax on chiropractors
7. Assembly Bill 246 – Increased the tax on “shampoo technologists”
8. Assembly Bill 258 – Created a tax on internet “crowd-funding”
9. Assembly Bill 268 – Created a tax on babysitters for foster children
10. Assembly Bill 325 – Created a tax on “professional guardians”
11. Assembly Bill 380 – Requires the collection of sales taxes on internet purchases
12. Assembly Bill 478 – Increased taxes on developers
13. Assembly Bill 480 – Increased

- taxes on mortgage brokers
14. Assembly Bill 484 – Increased various DMV taxes
15. Senate Bill 38 – Increased taxes on day/night clubs
16. Senate Bill 44 – Increased taxes on oil or natural gas production
17. Senate Bill 312 – Raised room taxes on certain hotels in Reno
18. Senate Bill 370 – Increased taxes for barbers
19. Senate Bill 388 – Increased taxes for divorces
20. Senate Bill 395 – Increased Clark County tax for marriage licenses.
21. Senate Bill 404 – Created a new tax for licensing a moped
22. Senate Bill 411 – Allows school boards to place increases on room taxes, vehicle registration taxes, real property transfer taxes, sales/use taxes and property taxes on the ballot
23. Senate Bill 476 – Allows a “conservation district” to raise property taxes
24. Senate Bill 483 – Made the “sunssets” permanent, along with other tax hikes – including the creation of the new “Nevada IRS”
25. Senate Bill 483 (amendment) – Added the “commerce tax” to the bill – including creation of the new “Nevada IRS”
26. Senate Bill 488 – Created a new tax for certain veterinary products
27. Senate Bill 489 – Imposed an license tax on “peer support recovery organizations”
28. Senate Bill 498 – Created a tax on community health workers
29. Senate Bill 502 – Increased taxes paid to the DMV on all transactions

Which brings to mind what Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform, says about “rathead” Republicans who vote for tax hikes...

“Raising taxes is a sign of incompetence in a politician. He/she cannot manage. A willingness to raise taxes is telegraphing such failure.”

So true. A true failure.

But when push came to shove, Oscarson buckled under pressure and fell in line with Sandoval and the governor's bogus claim that more money was needed for education.

Trenner, who ended up challenging Oscarson in the June GOP primary, didn't buy the manure Oscarson was shoveling...

“Governor Kenny Guin raised taxes (in 2003), with the highest increase the state had ever seen. It was all for education and our children. But all these years later we are still number 50 in education. If we throw more money, can we get any worse? How do you get worse than #50? Money was not the

answer then and it is not the answer now.”

A second primary challenger, Rusty Stanberry, was having none of it either...

“Our current incumbent Assemblyman James Oscarson has not acted on the conservative Republican values in which he was elected and has failed our District. He was part of the largest tax increase, after promising the voters he would not raise taxes. Oscarson is part of the problem, not the solution for Nevada.”

But this was nothing compared to the fury felt by the leaders and members of the Nye County Republican Party which “spent their time, effort, energy and money to help get...Oscarson re-elected.”

In fact, they EXCOMMUNICATED him!

In a scathing resolution passed unanimously, the party's Central Committee declared that...

“Assemblyman James Oscarson came before the Nye County Central Committee and promised not to vote for any new taxes” and then “DEFRAUDING Republicans and violating Republican Principles & Platforms” by voting for “the largest tax increase in Nevada history.”

As such, the party declared that due to his “betrayal of the trust and responsibility to Republicans,” Oscarson made himself “unwelcome to enjoy the privilege of being honorary members of the Nye County Republican Central Committee.

The resolution further resolved that... “Assemblyman James Oscarson no longer (has) the support of the Nye County Republican Central Committee” and “the Nye County Republican Central Committee encourages Republicans in Nye County and throughout Nevada to withhold any future support from James Oscarson in any future elections.”

## OUCH!

In addition, former Assemblyman Goedhart – whose seat Oscarson took in 2012 – is supporting Oscarson's independent opponent in the 2016 general election.

“Since I served three terms as your assemblyman for District 36,” Goedhart wrote in a post-primary email, “I know what it takes to do the job.

Dennis Hof is the right choice. I endorse Dennis for our next assemblyman for District 36.”

I'm guessing he won't be alone.

## DISCLAIMER:

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Over the past 40 years, Dennis Hof has been a successful Nevada businessman, entrepreneur, restaurateur, author, philanthropist, Oxford University lecturer, star of an award-winning reality TV series on HBO and producer of a Cinemax show.

Hof owns the Alien Travel Center in Amargosa Valley and several other businesses in northern Nevada and Crystal, Nevada.

He's appeared on hundreds of radio and TV shows, including The Today Show, Good Morning America, The View, Diane Sawyer, 20/20, Entertainment Tonight, Inside Edition, Access Hollywood, The O'Reilly Factor and Hannity.

He's been interviewed on FOX, CNN, MSNBC, ABC, NBC and CBS and was the subject of an 11-page feature article by award-winning journalist Rebecca Mead in New Yorker magazine.

## Visit [www.DennisHof.com](http://www.DennisHof.com) to learn:

- Why I'm Running – and what it means to you
- Why Assemblyman Oscarson should be FIRED!
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