Legislators historically have always been skittish about supporting tax increases, even when the need is clear and justifiable ð as with the trust fund.

They view Christieôs argument that the Constitution requires the Legislature to recommend tax measures as a transparent attempt to avoid political repercussions and castigate Democrats as the õtax and spendò party.

They want collaboration, a sign from Christie that he would accept a tax package in a show of bi-partisanship. Theyôre willing, it seems, to