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Don't Fall for the *Big Lie!*

All over Illinois, lobbyists, newspapers, and legislators are telling you a *Big Lie.*

They are telling you that *Education in Illinois is under-funded.*

This is False!

Did you know your Legislators are gearing up for passing a HUGE job-killing tax increase here in Illinois?

Currently titled SB 1484, this bill hikes;

- the **state income tax by 67% (from 3% to 5%)**
- the **corporate income tax by 67% (from 4.8% to 8%).**
- There may even be a broadening on the sales tax, so you can pay an **extra 6.75% on your health club memberships and auto repairs.**

Priced between \$5.1 to \$7.1 billion, **this bill will chase businesses and jobs out of Illinois** at an accelerating rate.

Don't fall for the "Property Tax Relief" Sugar Coating!

This bill is being hawked as another "Tax Swap" scheme. Like most "sugar coatings", this one will wear away right after you've swallowed this bitter bill. Here are two important points to remember about this so-called "relief."

1. There is **no Property Tax Cut** in this bill! The money set aside for "tax relief" goes back to your school districts, not the taxpayer¹. What will be the first thing your district does when they get the money? They'll put a referendum on the ballot to make them keep the money. You may never see a dime of "tax relief." **You may get saddled with a huge tax increase AND a property tax increase!**
2. There is **nothing in this bill to reform Illinois' culture of spending** and "legalized corruption." No Medicaid reform (increasing at an out-of-control 8%/yr. rate), no reform of **Enron-style pension give-aways**, and nothing to fix the so-called "structural deficit." This means that any "property tax relief fund" will soon be raided to pay for Illinois spending problem.

¹ <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=1484&GAID=8&DocTypeID=SB&LegId=19490&SessionID=50&GA=94>
They say the truth will set you free; but first it will make you very angry.

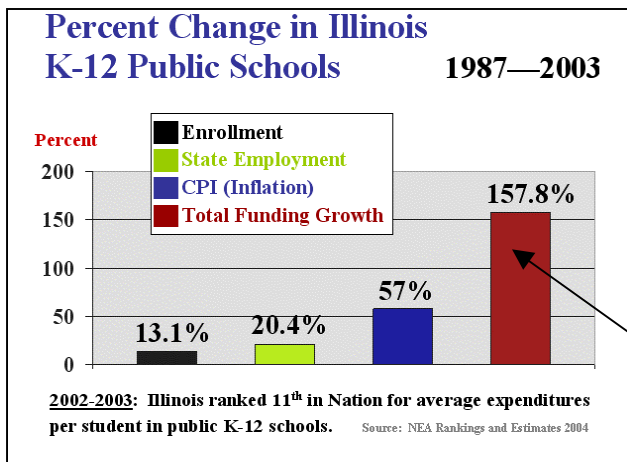
But what about “The Children?”

Using “*the children*” is the last refuge of the scoundrel. Billions of dollars of spending increases have been passed “for the children.” Somehow, the money always seems to end up in the pockets of the Bureaucrats, and not for the kids. Nowhere is this more evident than in the runaway spending on Illinois Education.

- How does a pension system bankrupted by unsustainable giveaways help “the children?”
- How do large end-of-career pay increases for teachers help “the children?”

THESE SCHEMES DON'T help “the children” because the spending goes to connected bureaucrats & protected monopolies!

Just look at the graph below! (It's from Mike Madigan's own slide show)



13.1 % increase in Students with a 158 % increase in State Spending!

**It isn't a shortage of money!
It's a shortage of common sense & integrity in the Education Bureaucracy!**

Does this Look suspiciously like a “Rainy Day Fund” to you?

There is a better way. If this tax increase passes this year, the “spending culture” of *both parties* will paper over Illinois problems until they need another tax increase. By that time, the only people left in Illinois will be those dependent on the government and the government employees to administrate them.

But if you call your Representative and Senator NOW, and tell them what you think, in 2006 we'll see a REAL debate on how to solve the state's fiscal problems with real spending reforms, and not tax increases.

For more information, visit these excellent websites. They have great research and information on the REAL problem with Illinois' Budget woes.

- www.freedomworks.org/illinois/index.php
- www.illinoispolicyinstitute.org
- www.extremewisdom.blogspot.com
- www.heartland.org
- www.thechampion.org/schools/salaries.asp
- www.noreferendum.org

**From 2003 through 2004, Illinois revenue increased \$5 billion, but spending was jacked by \$6.5 billion.
Tell your legislator that
It's a Spending Problem
NOT A
Funding Problem**

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