

## PROPERTY TAX!

I have been a Hancock County tax assessor for three years and have learned firsthand how property is assessed, how taxes are distributed and where efficiency could increase even cost decrease. Three years ago I asked to be appointed tax assessor in my county. You may be saying “boo!”, but I did this for the following reasons: to learn from the ground up how property was assessed; to see how the taxes were actually distributed; and to see if there was room for improvement within this area of government.

I believe the supervisor of assessments and their staff is greatly needed to properly record property transactions. As you view the website, you will see that one of my goals is to enhance efficiency and decrease cost where needed within many area of government.

First and foremost, I want to tell you that I believe the supervisor of assessments and their staff are greatly needed to properly record property transactions, along with their many other duties. However, one thought provoking question is, “If Illinois would greatly reduce property tax for its businesses, how many businesses would want to locate in Illinois?” The back cover of a 1989 phone book stated, “90% of America’s manufacturing is done within Chicago.” This is no longer true as most of our manufacturing jobs, as well as trucking companies, having left due to extreme taxes. We must also consider the burden of fees. These two things have lead to the tragedy of business being driven out of our state with the resulting chain reaction effects.

Less manufacturing = fewer new houses  
Fewer new houses = fewer service providers  
Fewer service providers = fewer gas stations  
Fewer gas stations = less road / fuel tax  
With all the above, fewer union jobs  
Fewer union jobs = lower standard pay rate  
Lower standard pay rate = less income tax paid

Instead of just raising taxes to pay for an ever growing government, let’s do something to create those high paying jobs. If you are a business of any type looking for a place to locate, would you not locate where costs are less? Two such costs that we can address and / or regulate are Workman’s Compensation Insurance and Personal Property taxes.

Additionally I believe the entire Workman’s Compensation plan needs to be revitalized and a valid way to pay for these services be instigated at drastically reduced cost. Please know I am 100% in favor of workers injured on the job having those injuries and rehabilitation completely paid for. I believe, however that with a complete revitalization on health care services and a valid way to pay for those services, Workman’s Compensation Insurance needs can be reduced, thus drastically reducing the cost.

As a personal property owner living in Illinois, how would you respond to lowered or eliminated personal property taxes? Would you make improvements to your property? Would you spend more on other things like cars, trucks, fences, education, build more new houses, contribute more to charities, save for retirement? The list is endless. Property tax penalizes those who are the working backbone of the state. Lowering or eliminating those same taxes could have the effect of boosting the economy from increased dollars hitting the market place. You have heard it said that, “Figures never lie, but liars figure,” I have put a pencil to paper, to see where budget cuts can be made within the state. I’m asking that you figure it as well and see what you come up with. I feel sure you will see that reducing, and possibly even doing away with personal property tax has the potential to actually increase revenue. There is a better way to fund that state than through property taxes. I have researched this issue and believe that I have a better plan.

This is Randy White and I want to be your next Lt. Governor. Thank you for your time, please pass this on to your family and friends. If those who are committed to this issue work together we will win.