



Illinois Federation of Teachers  
A Union of Professionals

#FairTaxNow

# A FAIR TAX FOR ILLINOIS

## Illinois is in deep financial trouble.

We have a \$3.2 billion deficit and \$15 billion in unpaid bills. A **fair tax is the only way to fix the state's finances** without imposing a 20% tax increase on everyone or drastically cutting funding for schools and services.

## Our current "flat tax" structure is fundamentally unfair.

In Illinois, middle- and working-class families pay significantly more in taxes as a percent of their income than the wealthy. Data shows that the top one percent of income earners pay just 7.4 percent of their income in state and local taxes, while **the bottom 20 percent of earners have almost twice the tax burden** – 14.4%, more than any other state in the Midwest.

*Source: Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy*

## A fair tax would generate more money for schools and public services.

The governor's proposal will generate **\$3.4 billion in revenue** to fund schools, colleges, universities, health care, state services, and pensions.

## 97 percent of taxpayers will see some tax relief.

- Only those making \$250,000 pay more
- Includes a 20% **increase in property tax credit** for single people making up to \$250,000 and couples making up to \$500,000
- Includes a new Child Tax Credit (\$100) for middle-class families
- See how the Fair Tax would affect you: <http://illinois.gov/fairtaxcalculator>

## Most states already have a fair tax – and it works.

- Four out of five neighboring states have a fair tax, and they are doing better economically than Illinois.
- California raised taxes on millionaires. Minnesota enacted a fair tax. They both saw growth.

## With a fair tax, IL rates would be lower than in neighboring states.

Under the governor's proposed plan, the vast majority of Illinois earners would pay less income tax than they would in neighboring states like Iowa and Wisconsin.

**To get involved email [fairtax@ift-aft.org](mailto:fairtax@ift-aft.org).**