

NOW IS THE TIME:

VOTE YES on new revenue to pay our bills, create jobs & return Illinois to sound fiscal footing

Illinois is at a critical crossroads as the current General Assembly prepares to close on Jan. 12. Legislators must act now on a revenue plan under consideration in Springfield.

Approval of these new revenues would provide better balance in how we solve Illinois' fiscal challenges, returning our state to more solid fiscal footing. **Failure** to do so threatens us with still more harm – more unpaid bills and cuts in schools, health care, human services and public-safety efforts ...further job losses ... and more struggle to achieve economic recovery.

The Responsible Budget Coalition urges approval of these significant new revenues, which are consistent with our core principles. The approach under discussion would:

- **PAY PRESSING STATE BILLS** that are owed to schools, health care and human service providers and other important public services, as well as help to end a raft of ongoing, damaging budget cuts in those priorities.
- **RETIRE HEAVY DEBT** by covering scheduled payments to the state pension system.
- **REPAIR ILLINOIS' CREDIT RATING**. Financial analysts already are commenting favorably about proposed repairs of the state's fiscal situation – something they didn't think we would do.
- **CREATE JOBS**. Immediate payment of back bills will put resources back into communities statewide, boosting the economy and create over 100,000 tax-paying, private-sector jobs, according to some estimates.
- **BOOST EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES** by including some crucial resources for those vital priorities.
- **PROVIDE PROPERTY TAX REBATES** to offer some fairness to taxpayers.

More than 30 other states, including most of our neighbors, already have raised significant new revenues to help balance their approach to steep fiscal challenges. Now is our time to do likewise – to solve our soaring fiscal problems with better balance and responsibility, and put Illinois back on track toward recovery and prosperity.

[Responsible Budget Coalition](#)

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