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25

PETITION IN SUPPORT OF BRINGING THE SPECIAL NEEDS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY TO CHIPPEWA FALLS. GOOD JOBS ARE GOOD FOR THE ENTIRE REGION.

| NAME | ADDRESS |
|--------------------------|---|
| Phyllis M. Grohn | 14185 46th Ave. Chippewa Falls, WI. |
| Cliff Ashwin | 14185 46th Ave Chippewa Falls, WI |
| Nancy Hanson | 14168 46 th ave. Chippewa Falls, WI. |
| Bruce & David Shy | 422 Superior St Chippewa Falls, WI |
| Michelle Nindler | 14117 46th Ave CF |
| William P. Campbell | 14147 46 th Ave CF |
| Cebbie Blum | 14091 46 th Ave CF |
| W. Blum | 14091 46th Ave CF |
| Jan Long | 4672 143 rd St. C.F. |
| Patricia Buchner | 14318 46th Ave C.F. |
| Aprile Will | 1432 Perry St. C.F. |
| Sandy Blum | 1439 2nd St C.F. |
| Lynda Agnew | 745 Lynn St. C.F. |
| Andrew Stowell | 560 E Wisconsin, C.F. |
| Arthur Baldesheim | 527 E. Garden St CF |
| Ernest Agnew | 745 Lynn St Chippewa Falls W. |
| Ann Hoffman | 702 E. Garden St. C.F. |
| Marge Shy | 14308 46th Ave. C.F. |
| Janet Long | 4672 143 rd St C.F. |
| Jana Rude | 14096 46 th C.F. |
| Colleen Parents de Costa | 1614 Wheaton St. Chippewa Falls |
| Kathleen Agnew | 607 High St. Apt # 208. C.F. |
| Melissa Sear | 10764 Co. Hwy of CF |
| Carla M. Nelson | 807 Bridgewater Ave CF |
| Edna G. Balke | C.F. 593 MAITLAND DR. CF |

CF
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25

NAME ADDRESS

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Robert [unclear] | 26635 135 Cadott |
| Marcella Chapel | 545 S Crestwood St |
| John F. Roth | 22653 Cadott |
| John [unclear] | PO BOX 175 CADOTT |
| Kathy [unclear] | 24956 155 Cadott |
| John [unclear] | 23654 County Hwy X Cadott |
| Dann [unclear] | 433 EAST CHIPPEWA ST CADOTT WI |
| Jana M. [unclear] | 304 S. Ash St CADOTT, WI |
| Kay [unclear] | 25451 135th Av. CADOTT, WI |
| [unclear] | 110 S 4th St CADOTT WI |
| [unclear] | 13324 17th St CADOTT |
| [unclear] | 14575 270th St CADOTT |
| Lina Matott | 27070 City Hwy 40 Cadott |
| Sheryl [unclear] | 3373 120th St. Chippewa Falls |
| Sharon Ryan | 7465 220th St Cadott WI 54727 |
| Lori Alger | 500 W Stanley Thorp WI 54771 |
| Ruth [unclear] | 3625 State Hwy 27 Cadott |
| John [unclear] | 618 HARVEY ST CADOTT |
| Jennifer [unclear] | 13924 300th St Boyd |
| Debbie [unclear] | W13066 Laurel St, Fellen WI 54447 |
| [unclear] | 226 E CENTRAL |
| Jack [unclear] | Boyd, WI |
| Bethleen [unclear] | 7291 203rd St. Chipp. Falls |
| Joan [unclear] | 2722 220th St Cadott, WI 54727 |
| Tommy [unclear] | 424 Oshkosh Boyd WI |

CF
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**PETITION IN SUPPORT OF BRINGING THE SPECIAL
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25

| NAME | ADDRESS |
|------------------|--|
| Carrie Gab-mae | 1118 Front St Chippewa Falls WI |
| Louise Louniere | 16897 210 th St Jim Fall WI |
| Patty K. Kelm | 13768 Hwy 124 Chippewa Falls WI 54729 |
| Dawn Kelm | 13768 Hwy 124 Chippewa Falls WI 54729 |
| Ande Osmij | 22830 230 Cornell, WI 54782 |
| James Kelm | 405 + 10071 Chippewa Falls |
| Jamara Lake | 175 main ST Chippewa Falls |
| Richard Siegest | 121 W. Spruce St Chippewa Falls |
| Sue Siegest | 121 W. Spruce St. Chippewa Falls |
| Brenda S. Kince | 400 Pamphorus Ed Chippewa Falls |
| Leto Warner | 1974 City Rd. X #7 Chipp. Falls |
| Rebecca Lawrence | 1994 City Rd. X #9 Chipp. Falls |
| Mike Hibbard | 126 W. COLUMBIA APTS Chippewa |
| Diane Blane | 116765 50th Ave Lot #35 |
| Ben K | 3 East Spring St Chippewa |
| Ben K | 815 W. SPRUCE AVE APT 5 Chippewa |
| Matt Sturz | 815 W. Spruce Ave Chippewa |
| Anthony Kuntz | 603 EAST WISCONSIN ST. CHIPPEWA FALLS |
| Georgiana Snyder | 17 south main Chippewa Falls |
| Tamara Nichols | 1122 Front St Chippewa Falls |
| Janice LaMenne | 1120 Front St " " |
| Maureen M. Gade | 402 Island ST Chippewa Falls |
| Yean Mae | 1118 Front St, Chippewa Falls |
| Greg Gandle | 1115 Front St Chippewa Falls |
| Brenda Bungartz | 1109 E Grand Ave Chippewa Falls |

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**PETITION IN SUPPORT OF BRINGING THE SPECIAL
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| NAME | ADDRESS |
|-------------------|---|
| Bruce W. Kupci | 704 Irving St CF. |
| John V. Schuy | 136 Judith St. Chipewa |
| Charles Wood | 1315 BROADWAY AVE CHIPPEWA FALLS |
| Anthony N. Bove | 9729 151 st St Chippewa Falls |
| Rand C. Missfeldt | 16259 35 th Ave. Chippewa Falls |
| Lee J. Douglas | 13355 41 st Ave - Chippewa Falls |
| Jean W. Thom | 436 N. Maple St. Cadott |
| R D Bury | 18472 54 Ave Chippewa Falls |
| Joe Gunn | 12105 180th Ave Bloomer WI |
| Donald Whittemore | 1038 Coleman St - Chip Falls |
| Jani R. Flynn | 104 E North St, New Auburn - |
| Best Chappin | 250 Coleman St |
| Brian Christman | 20965 115 th Ave C.F. |
| Bob [unclear] | 1 E CANAL ST C.F. |
| Shonda Cayton | 2416 Durcan St. C.F. |
| Quinn [unclear] | 17838 45th Ave Chippewa Falls |
| Don Campbell | 13619 47 th Ave C.F. |
| John R. Campbell | 610 Irvine Street, Chippewa Falls WI 54729 |
| Steve Le Clair | 353 EAST CANAL ST CHIPPEWA FALLS |
| Bill West | 1875 175 th Ave Chippewa Falls |
| Joseph R. Bove | 18839 30 th Ave Chippewa Falls |
| Shirley [unclear] | 12095 49 Hwy EE Cadott, WI |
| Douglas [unclear] | 746 Fall St Eau Claire WI |
| Marj [unclear] | 925 Eddy Ln. Eau Claire, WI |
| Richard H. Olson | 2729 Columbia St Chippewa Falls WI |
| Carl Farnsworth | 512 W. Brown St. Augusta WI. |

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5-26-99 City of C.F.

**PETITION IN SUPPORT OF BRINGING THE SPECIAL
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25

NAME ADDRESS

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Wayne Korn | 313 E Willow St Chip. |
| Andreas Zorn | 816 N. Prairie St. Chippewa Falls |
| Kathleen Zorn | 313 E. Willow St C.F. |
| Judith Korn | 313 E Willow St. C.F. |
| Dulce A Korn | 313 E. Willow St. C.F. |
| Lori Feussler | 123 E. Elm St. C.F. |
| Melissa Feussler | 123 E. Elm St C.F. |
| amory Sampson | 823 1/2 High Street CF |
| J. Sedule | 817 High St CF |
| Tom Sedlack | 809 Bodge way CF |
| Rita Swartz | 115 E. Cedar St |
| William Swartz | 115 E Cedar St |
| Sherry Christian | 121 E Cedar |
| Muri Talma | 120 E Cedar |
| Lisa Frederick | 54 East Cedar C.F. |
| Doreen K. Yell | 52 East Cedar C.F. |
| Jim Johnson | 808 Jefferson Ave #3 |
| Enley M. Thorne | 925 - High St B. Falls. |
| Mark Mun | 318 E. Willow St C.F. |
| Vicky Clark | 317 E. Willow St C.F. |
| Mark Clark | 317 E. Willow St C.F. |
| Rick Gahr | 423 N. Birch |
| Lori Kueger | 413 N Grove St |
| Lillian Kueger | 413 N Grove St |
| Sherry Schubert | 413 N Grove St C.F. |

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NAME

ADDRESS

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Dale R Fenner | Chippewa Fall 10482 100th AVE |
| Bill Howie | 9603 STATE HWY 178 CHIPPEWA FALLS WI. |
| Bill Heckerason | 7963 HWY K CHIPPEWA FALLS WI |
| Kenneth Rong | 704 Gilbert Ave. Eau Claire, WI. 54701 |
| Michael P. Loh | 3444 295 th St. CADOTT, WI 54727 |
| David A. Knuth | E15425 Cnty. Rd. D - Fall Creek, WI 54747 |
| Paul J. Juhn | 1720 LYON AVE ALCOWA WI 54720 |
| Michael Scholtz | 15223 1107th AVE CHIPPEWA FALLS WI ⁵⁴⁷²⁹ |
| Ernie Linnigan | 3108 Fern St, Eau Claire WI 54701 |
| Dennis H. Johnson | 410 Olive St. Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 |
| John A. White | 627 W. Elm St Chippewa Falls WI: 54729 |
| James J. Wanner | 110 Durck Dr. Apt. 3 Chippewa Falls WI 54729 |
| Charles G. Hill | 721 Bolles Eau Claire, WI 54703 |
| Steve J. J. J. J. | 3131 Dale Rd Eau Claire, WI 54709 |
| Ed Rothmann | 9387 Cty F Chippewa Falls, WI |
| Mike Benzakane | 1119 Bellevue Ave. Eau Claire WI. 54703 |
| Louis SLY | 5069 CTY RD K CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI 54729 |
| Dyan Ciozkosz | 9536 300 th St. Boyd WI 54728 |
| Carl Boe | 479 Irvine St. Chippewa Falls 54729 |
| Mike Johnson | 1510 Lee St, Eau Claire, WI 54701 |
| Bernie B. B. B. | 307 West Central St C. F. WI 54729 |
| Larry Erickson | 16112 89th Ave Chippewa Falls 54729 |
| Gary Speth | 1126 County Hwy X Boyd 54726 |
| Jason Smith | 2297 250 th St CADOTT, WI 54727 |
| Kim Sinsap | 1027 Water St. Chippewa Falls 54729 |

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PETITION IN SUPPORT OF BRINGING THE SPECIAL NEEDS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY TO CHIPPEWA FALLS. GOOD JOBS ARE GOOD FOR THE ENTIRE REGION.

| NAME | ADDRESS |
|-------------------|--|
| Jerome LaRock | 230 Wapiti Ln. Elk Mound, Wis. |
| Jerome P. LaRock | Fall City |
| Beau J. LaRock | 218 W. SPRING 43 CHIPPEWA, FALLS WI 54739 |
| Elisa Stitz | Elk Mound |
| Tim Dubeck | Elk Mound |
| Brenda Lee Hamelt | P.O. Box 88 Elk Mound Wis. 54739 |
| Jeri N. Gray | EM. |
| Tim Dubeck | P.O. Box 98 Elk Mound WI 54739 |
| Bruce McElroy | EM. |
| Jo Ann Malm | N. 7441 808th - Colfax |
| Melanie Mulgaard | 58784 Hwy 12 Elk Mound WI 54739 |
| Shawn Noah | 2080 291st St. Holcombe WI 54745 |
| Colleen Pierce | S. Holly Elk Mound |
| Mary Will | 208 Mound Park Dr. Elk Mound. |
| Edward Rhodes | 204 University, Elk Mound |
| Dikki Schrantz | 350 Division St. Elk Mound |
| Julie LaRoc | 2417 State Hwy 29 Elk Mound |
| Leidi Stock | 210 Lincoln St. Elk Mound |
| Shane Mahler | Elk Mound |
| Pat Schrag | P.O. Box 313 Elk Mound |
| Archang Bonn | N. VU20 Elk Mound, WI, Elk Mound. |
| Chris Smith | N 1310 10000-Street E.C. |
| Michael D. Jensen | 221 Wapiti Ln. Elk Mound, Wis. |
| Jeff Benson | 1061 Hwy 12 Elk Mound Wis. |
| Cheri K Benson | 1061 State Hwy 12 Elk Mound WI |
| Amy Swanson | 105 University St Elk Mound Wis. |
| Paula Cooley | Lot 30 Elk Mound WI |



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| NAME | ADDRESS |
|--------------------|---|
| Vaughan Forster | 832 Woodward Ave. Chippewa Falls |
| Mathilda Forster | 832 Woodward Ave Chippewa Falls |
| Regt. Korman | 11238 161 st St Chippewa Falls, WI |
| Raymond E. Johnson | 724 Woodward Ave Chippewa Falls |
| Olga E. Peterson | 724 Woodward Ave, Chippewa Falls |
| Carson Jank | 838 Woodward Ave. Chippewa Falls |
| Anna M. Schwartz | 808 Woodward Ave Chippewa Falls |
| Julie A. Wellner | 9102 Co Hwy. D Boyd |
| Darlene Mabe | 4690 Co Hwy P. Chippewa Falls, WI |
| Carole Marks | 4690 County Hwy P Chippewa Falls |
| Eugene Karker | 811 Woodward Ave Chippewa Falls, WI |
| Bonnie Karker | 811 Woodward Ave Chippewa Falls |
| Lola Laramy | 814 Woodward Chippewa Falls, |
| Nenny Laramy | 814 Woodward Chippewa Falls |
| Marj Lane Forster | 832 Woodward Ave Chippewa Falls |
| Smith Murphy | A.S. Dulles C.F. |
| Luciane Cousman | 12569 65th Ave N. C.F. |
| Estelle Cousman | 125th 65th Ave N. C.F. |
| Gladys Kowinski | 134 W. Cedar St |
| Terry Schredler | 305 West Garden St CF |
| Carl Schredler | 305 W. Garden St CF |
| Blaria Brantner | W2226 County Road K - Durand WI |
| Cedric Brantner | W2226 County Road K Durand WI 54730 |
| Dary A. Kaiser | N 304 Holly Ave Elk Mound, WI : |

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1

Testimony of Robert Young, Tax Manager
Consolidated Papers, Inc.
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin

Re: Joint Finance Public Hearing - Stevens Point
April 13, 1999

Good Afternoon.

My name is Bob Young. I am the Tax Manager at Consolidated Papers, Inc., whose corporate headquarters is in Wisconsin Rapids.

I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you today to briefly discuss the Single Sales Factor provision in the Governor's Budget that Consolidated Papers feels must be enacted to:

1. Keep us competitive with companies operating in other states.
2. Provide an opportunity to attract new business to Wisconsin.
3. Increase and maintain employment, especially good-paying manufacturing and technical jobs, in Wisconsin.

As you are aware, Wisconsin uses a three-factor formula to determine the portion of a company's income that will be taxed. That is, the portion of income upon which the Wisconsin corporate income tax rate of 7.9% is levied is determined by the ratio of what

a corporation's Wisconsin payroll, property and sales is to its world-wide property, payroll, and sales. In Wisconsin, the sales factor is double-weighted.

Under the single sales factor method the ratio of sales within a state to sales worldwide is used to apportion income to the state. In effect payroll and property are taken out of the equation - and just the sales factor is used to determine taxable income. Thus the term, single sales factor apportionment method.

The result is the tax burden is shifted from companies that have committed large amounts of property and employment in the state, to companies that have sales in the state and no or small amounts of property and payroll in the state.

States that currently employ the single-sales factor method include our neighbors Illinois and Iowa. Michigan is now phasing in a single-sales factor approach to taxation of corporations. Minnesota, Indiana, and Ohio also heavily weigh the sales factor in apportioning income to their states. Other states that have adopted the single-sales factor methodology include Rhode Island, Missouri, Texas, and Massachusetts.

Simply put, Wisconsin-based companies with large investments in plant, equipment, and employees in Wisconsin are bearing an unequal share of the tax burden in states that they sell to - states that have adopted the single-sales factor methodology. Conversely, companies based in states with the single-sales factor methodology and with low property

and payroll in Wisconsin, but with large sales in Wisconsin, have a significantly lighter share of the Wisconsin tax burden.

We ask that you support the Governor's single-sales factor provision that is part of his current budget proposal. We are asking this to ensure that Wisconsin-based companies operate in a tax environment that is fair and equitable so that we can remain competitive.

We are not asking for special treatment. We are simply asking for a level playing field between Wisconsin and our neighboring states. Your support of the single sales factor methodology will enhance Wisconsin's prosperity, attract new business development and create jobs.

Thank you for providing me with this opportunity today. We stand ready to share more information with you as you consider this very serious tax matter.



Georgia-Pacific Corporation *Wisconsin Operations*
100 Wisconsin River Drive
Port Edwards, WI 54469-1492
Telephone (715) 887-5111

April 13, 1999

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you today concerning the 1999/2001 budget bill. My name is Craig Timm, and I am public relations manager for Georgia-Pacific Corporation's Wisconsin Operations. Georgia-Pacific traces its roots in Wisconsin to a sawmill in Port Edwards in 1840. We began producing paper in Nekoosa in 1893 and in Port Edwards in 1896. You know us by the business communication papers you use every day, as well as the books you read, the checks you write, and many other items.

The Port Edwards and Nekoosa paper mills represent Nekoosa Papers Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Georgia-Pacific. G-P is one of the world's largest manufacturers and distributors of building products, pulp and paper. Based in Atlanta, we employ 46,000 people at more than 400 locations. In Wisconsin, G-P operates six manufacturing facilities (Port Edwards, Nekoosa, Oshkosh, Phillips, Sheboygan and Superior), a building products distribution center at Wausau, and a wood procurement office at Port Edwards.

- The Timber Company manages about 254,000 acres of forestland in Wisconsin from an office at Port Edwards. It also operates seed orchards at Ashwa Bay and Petenwell and a seedling nursery at Port Edwards.
- As of January 1, 1998, G-P's capital investment in Wisconsin totaled in excess of \$245.4 million.
- G-P's Wisconsin operations generate about \$91.7 million in taxable wages each year.
- More than 2,000 employees work for G-P and The Timber Company in the state.



It is no secret that Wisconsin's largest industry, papermaking, has had many struggles recently in the global marketplace. We compete in that world each and every day. In order to remain competitive, we must be a low-cost, high-quality manufacturer. The ways our governmental leaders can help that process are very much appreciated.

I am here today to speak on those issues we know will benefit our business and the economic climate in Wisconsin. First of all, we support single-factor apportionment for corporate income tax. Neighboring states, including Iowa, Illinois, Michigan and Minnesota, use single-factor or a similar system. If Wisconsin decides not to adopt a similar tax policy, it will continue to put Wisconsin corporations at a competitive disadvantage with our neighbors. In the single-factor apportionment, we are not penalized for having invested in manufacturing facilities and payrolls. Also, the single-factor apportionment would simplify tax preparation and allow for more efficient audits, which should release some state tax dollars to be utilized in other areas of the state budget. We strongly support the single-factor apportionment tax policy and believe that it should be included in the budget bill.

We also support voluntary combined reporting for corporate income taxes. There are corporate structures that will benefit from this tax policy also.

For some corporations such as Nekoosa Papers that have a 100-plus-year presence in this state, the economic benefits would allow us to strengthen our operations now and long into the future.

Georgia-Pacific and Nekoosa Papers is committed to manufacturing paper products in the state of Wisconsin. We appreciate the efforts our local elected officials, like Senator Shibilski, who are working to keep Wisconsin's economy strong.

I want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, for your time, and we at Nekoosa Papers appreciate the opportunity to address this committee as you deliberate changes in Wisconsin's tax policy.

Testimony Before The Joint Finance Committee

Stevens Point, April 13, 1999

By

Susan Pokorny

My husband and I own a timeshare at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells. At our last owners meeting, we were told that the Governor's proposed budget includes a provision to put a sales tax on timeshare sales and maintenance fees.

My husband and I have a difficult time understanding how a sales tax can be put on a real estate transaction. We also don't see how maintenance fees can be taxed. Our ownership is a deeded condominium purchase; that is we have a deed to a particular piece of real estate. Does this mean that all condominium maintenance fees will be subject to a sales tax?

When we purchased our timeshare in 1988, we paid a real estate transfer fee, received a real estate deed, and have paid real estate taxes on it since. Can real estate taxes be subject to a sales tax? Can our utility costs, which include a sales tax, have another sales tax added on? Can the monies we pay as wages to employees be taxed by a sales tax? Every expenditure our maintenance fees pay for already include a tax paid to the State. We don't think a tax on a tax is fair, or constitutional.

Because timeshare ownership and maintenance fees are under the condominium laws of Wisconsin, would passage of this part of the budget mean that all condominium sales and fees would be taxed? Would all employers in Wisconsin have to pay a sales tax on all the wages and fringe benefits of their employees? Because of Wisconsin's Constitution concerning equality of property taxes, would all property owners have to pay a sales tax on their property taxes?

I think it is rather obvious that this is an unfair proposal and should be dropped from the budget. I ask you to please do that.

Thank you.

Susan Pokorny
1902 Tamarack St.
Plover, WI 54467

Dear Sir:

11/19/92 1, 1989

Hand deliver The Entire Letter
that I, George F. Devine, had
mailed earlier to the Wisconsin
State Legislature. (Letter sent Monday May 29, 1991)
(Letter Entitled
WHY ARE YOUR TAXES SO HIGH)
Questions?? "THANKS"

Sincerely,
George F. Devine
Phone: (608) 244-1082
301 Troy Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53704

5-28-99

Dear Political Leader,

Please find a way to stop
our Tax dollars going to Planned
Parenthood.

Sincerely,
Anne E. Nordhamer
4801 Sheboygan Ave, #10, Madison, WI 53705



Mitch

266
8535

35 responses -

enough in here to
ask questions -
a number who just
moved to WI and
can't believe the taxes -
now living paycheck to
paycheck -

WI. Taxes must be lowered for
all people who live in here
them \$30,000 net. I have a total
income of \$32, ~~481~~ gross & \$5968 net.
My wife. taxes are \$929.00. Is that just?
I am 76 yrs of age & I must save each
year to have enough for State & Federal
taxes.

5-24-99

7725 Sweeney Road
Barneveld, WI 53507

May 27, 1999

Hon. Dale Schultz
State Capitol
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Schultz:

Wisconsin has been my home for over 70 years, and generally I like it here.

I like the quality of life, and until recently I have been proud of our clean government. Even now I'm optimistic that through some miracle higher standards will return to the State Capitol.

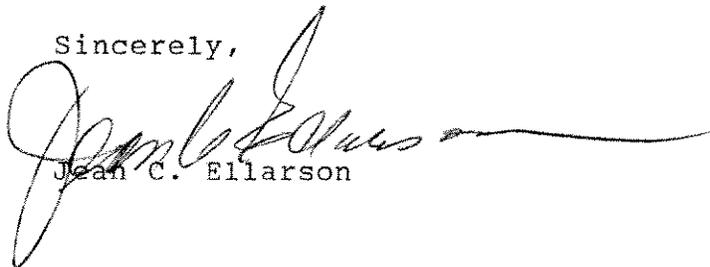
But then we come to taxes. Taxes are the basis for that high quality of life that I prize -- but it is totally discouraging to live in the state where businesses pay the lowest taxes in the nation, and the populace pays the highest.

I don't have a lobbyist, and neither do the other over-taxed citizens. We rely on our representatives to pursue a just tax policy. You're doing a terrible job, Senator Schultz.

Business will say, as it always has, that if the climate changes here they will go somewhere else. Where? Where there are already more business taxes??

We are not total idiots out here in the state -- but it seems that our representatives in Madison think that we are.

Sincerely,



Jean C. Ellarson

7725 Sweeney Road
Barneveld, WI 53507

May 27, 1999

Hon Stephen Freese
115 W, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Mr. Freese:

Wisconsin has been my home for over 70 years, and generally I like it here.

I like the quality of life, and until recently I have been proud of our clean government. Even now I'm optimistic that through some miracle our Capitol will return to higher standards.

But then we come to taxes. Taxes are the basis for that high quality of life that I prize -- but it is totally discouraging to live in the state where businesses pay the lowest taxes in the nation, and the populace pays the highest.

I don't have a lobbyist, and neither do the other over-taxed citizens. We rely on our representatives to pursue a just tax policy. You're doing a terrible job, Representative Freese.

Business will say, as it always has, that if the climate changes they will go somewhere else. Where? Where there are already more business taxes?

We are not total idiots out here in the state -- but it seems as if our representatives in Madison think that we are.

Sincerely,



Jean C. Ellarson

Dear Lawmakers —

I'd like for the lawmakers to allow the farmers (by the way, the backbone of this ~~country~~ ^{the world} because we feed the country and the world) to get the \$500,000 exemption when we sell our property. Our houses are not worth \$500,000, or even close, usually. We, as farmers, always invest back into our cattle, land, etc. leaving no money for fancy houses. Why is it we are always discriminated against as family farmers? Even if you do put the \$500,000 exemption on our farms, some of the big ^{factory} farms will pay if they sell because they have to invest a million or more to set up their operations.

If we keep the current exemption rate most of our sales will be taxable (our house is worth \$50,000) the rest is rated business. Is this fair because we have always taken less for our products we produce, never have anything for ourselves through our life (compared to the rest of society) and then still at the end pay everything out in taxes? Come on guys — look out for ^{small farmers} us for a change. We'd like to keep a little something to

retire on after 33 years of long hard
days with no time off for vacations
etc. (Gosh, we don't even play golf.)

Come out on the forms for a look at
how it is and you'll have a different
perspective, even if spend a week on a
working farm. No plush office and
big pay for us - just back breaking
work and wondering if the paycheck
will have anything left for groceries
and stuff for your kids after bills
are paid. Don't get me wrong, your work
is important to society, but I think ours
is also - try to live without food.

Well, I'll quit rambling, but I
just want someone to hear my side for
a change, even if nothing changes - at
least I spoke some of my mind.

Thanks for reading
this,

Mary Sherman

Viewer Feedback

Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Thursday, May 27th, 1999, 7:06 am

From: Shannon Kennedy

[List Messages](#) | [Previous Message](#) | [Next Message](#)

Address: 2037 Helena St. Madison 53704

Phone: 608 242-9584

I am single, renter, not attending school and childless.....when do I get a tax break?

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PTRC

Viewer Feedback

Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Monday, May 24th, 1999, 10:24 pm

From: Lindy Mueller (cellular@powerweb.net)

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Address:

Phone:

I would like to see our tax dollars go to support the other victims of crime. The children that are left behind when a parent is incarcerated. The Gov. has this new fatherhood initiative. He can't wait until fathers and mothers are released there has to be interaction now. How about; play areas for the children, toys for those play areas, and area where a father can actually interact with his child. Perhaps a meal together once a year or the opportunity for a portrait to be taken so the child has a decent picture to look at and show others. I am not suggesting the state pay for meals or pictures, the families can do that, but making a room for playful interaction, toys for the outside at institution that allow outside visitation, etc...

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Wednesday, May 26th, 1999, 3:36 pm

From: Guest (kwallac4@facstarff.wisc.edu)

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Address:

Phone:

1. The tax burden for single people with no children is very unfair. Married taxpayers have a lower rate to begin with and have dual income credit if both work. Results: they pay less than singles even with a higher combined income!
 2. Eliminate the Homestead Act credit! It is appalling to me that people can pay no taxes and get a maximum of \$1160 back from the state under this act. Other states that I have either lived in and/or paid taxes in do not have a Homestead Act and old folks survive just fine. At least tighten up the eligibility by not allowing students to file for Homestead. Processing these tax forms costs the state of Wisconsin a lot of extra money! Think of all that extra money we would have in the state treasury!
 3. Lower the gasoline taxes.
 4. PLEASE!! Keep lottery tax credits for renters! We pay property taxes indirectly through our rent!!
 5. Simplify the Wisconsin State Tax Forms - they are some of the most complicated in the nation.
 6. Do something for the farmers - they need a lower tax rate - at least for the smaller, family owned farms.
-

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Wednesday, May 26th, 1999, 11:36 am

From: Darrell Gibson

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Address: 1706 Pine Ridge Drive, Jnsvl, WI

Phone: 608-758-9726

We just lost our house due to raising taxes. Our taxes on our house were raised five times in five years. When will it end! What is this world coming to when a middle-aged middle-class working man cannot own a home. By the time you pay the taxes, you can't afford the house payment. Please stop this insanity!

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Monday, May 31st, 1999, 9:27 pm

From: Guest

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Address:

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Stop mandating programs that the state won't fund, yet burden county and local taxes. its a cowards way of raising taxes yet saying we didn't do it!

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Tuesday, May 25th, 1999, 11:03 am

From: Charlie Bakken (cbakken@ecb.state.wi.us)

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Address: 817 Elizabeth St.

Phone: 264-9673 (W); 849-7743 (H)

Shift the burden of taxes from real estate to personal property. Rather than taxing home owners, tax owners of automobiles, planes, jet-skis, snowmobiles, boats, ATVs and RVs. That way, if you choose to own a 1982 Omni, you pay a lot less in taxes on a vehicle than someone who just bought a Lexus SUV. Such a system would be fairer to those on fixed incomes. I'd rather see the rich have to sell a possession or two rather than the elderly lose their homes.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Tuesday, May 25th, 1999, 9:23 am

From: Mary Diaz (mdiaz@facstaff.wisc.edu)

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Address: 306 W Third Street, Waunakee, WI 53597

Phone: 608-849-8896

I feel that manufacturers and businesses should have to pay their fair share of taxes. Other states make them pay taxes. Also, wages from companies are not different from companies in other states. So who is benefiting from the tax break they are receiving? Unemployment rates across the country are also lower on an average. Is Wisconsin really that much better off or is it a robust economy across the country? Perhaps it is time that this states starts giving families a break, considering the rise in juvenile delinquency. Both parents needing to work and not being home for their children to supervise them. How many children have to go home to empty homes because parents cannot afford daycare or after school programming when they do work fulltime. Money goes out for taxes, rent, mortgage groceries and necessities.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Wednesday, May 26th, 1999, 11:47 pm

From: Guest (rblack@midplains.net)

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Address:

Phone:

Not only have Wisconsin businesses not had to pay taxes on anything used in production (M&E) for 22 years, many large corporations through skillful use of attorneys and timely payment of financial contributions to politicians, have even avoided paying substantial taxes on real property by having it declared "part of the the manufacturing process". Secondly, many Wisconsin businesses have been getting corporate welfare through the so-called process of economic grants (other taxpayers money) from various state agencies to build their corporate infrastructure using public money instead of their own, retaining the corporation's money to pay for high salaries, bonuses and other benefits for the top elite. How do the corporation get these grants, just by threatening to move, not only out of the state, but often just to another community in Wisconsin. The state agencies have phoned up various criteria that supposedly justifies the grant process, but in reality most is only a KYA paper trail to legalize political graft. If the "real" cost of these tax breaks to business was known in Wisconsin, it would approach a figure in excess of \$750 million, perhaps nearer to \$1 billion. At \$10 million apiece, between 75 to 100 entirely new schools could be built across Wisconsin if it wasn't for the avarice, greed and legalized thievery that the incumbency by too many politicians have nurtured, fostered and benefited from. Eliminate the "M&E" deductions, and corporate grants programs. Place restrictive term limits on all state level elected office and reduce the level of state government bureaucracy. Put a cap on total state employees per population of the state. Do I believe anyone in Wisconsin's Capitol will listen? Not likely. Why? Because I didn't send a large political contribution along or donate to a favorite PAC group.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Thursday, May 27th, 1999, 1:33 am

From: E. Drenning (timwong@mailbag.com)

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Address: P.,O. Box 2605

Phone: 266-2067

What we need to do is to reorient our tax system to make those who can better afford to pay pay a larger share of taxes. Does it make sense for the highest tax bracket to start at \$20K? Of course not. I would propose a couple more tax brackets, as in fact the gov's budget does. I would make the higher brackets pay more. Also, Wisconsin has one of the lowest corporate tax rates in the country. Why let the corporate people off scot-free while we pay their taxes for them? Why should our tax policy be for the rich to get richer? That's the Republican line, but they only represent about 5% of the population.

The other tax reform I would make is to get rid of the 60% exemption of capital gains. This is a tax break that overwhelmingly is taken advantage of by the wealthiest of our citizens.

Another reform I would favor is to put the sales tax on certain services used predominantly by the well to do, services such as lawyers, accountants, etc. Because I work in a sensitive state job, I will not give my real name, although the P.O. box is legit as is the e-mail address and the person's name in "your name." It's just not my name.

Now that I read your blib above this line, I would add that businesses once again be subject to the M & E taxes that they had to pay until that so-called Democrat Pat Lucey shifted taxes onto the common people to give his scummy friends in business a tax break.

Yes, normal Wisconsin citizens have extremely high taxes, and we in Madison have particularly high taxes because of all the tax-exempt property of the city, state, and university, but it's because the business class is paying way less than their share.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on how unfair our taxes are. I'm not opposed to taxes, but I do believe in a progressive tax system, which is not what we have.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Thursday, May 27th, 1999, 9:43 am

From: Sharon Crahen (scrahen@co.sauk.wi.us)

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Address: Rock Springs, WI 53961
Phone: 608-355-4281

I think businesses should get some tax break but not as much as they do. It is not right that the tax payers of Wisconsin are over taxed to subsidize large business that can afford to pay their top employees more than 5-10 times more than the average taxpayer in Wisconsin. I also think the casinos should pay some kind of tax or call in something else if it would make them feel better.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Thursday, May 27th, 1999, 1:13 pm

From: Sherri Swartz (swartzsher@aol.com)

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Address: 3002 Ashford Lane #5, Madison, 53713

Phone:

I recently moved to Madison from Iowa and was shocked at how high taxes are here, especially property taxes. One thing that usually helps keep residential property taxes low is having local businesses, including manufacturers, share the burden. I don't want to see businesses overtaxed (I did move here for a job), but I don't think it's unreasonable to ask them to pay something.

I would like to see tax breaks targeted to those at the lower end of the income spectrum. An across-the-board property tax cut would benefit mostly middle and upper income residents, who own homes with high values. For property tax relief I would rather see an income tax deduction up to a certain amount (maybe \$5000) for property taxes paid, that would also allow renters to deduct a percentage of their rent to represent the property taxes they pay indirectly. If lawmakers want an income tax cut, I would like to see a higher standard deduction for income tax or an additional tax bracket to provide relief for the \$20,000-\$40,000 range of income. It also irks me that Governor Thompson, after all his rhetoric about W2, the work ethic, etc. wants to cut the working family income tax credit while giving tax breaks to wealthier families. If we want to make work pay, then we should reward it with our tax structure, not just with words.

My last comment is that if we are going to cut taxes, then we should cut them, not just shift them. Mayor Bauman's idea of raising the sales tax to cut property taxes just amounts to taking taxpayers' money out of the right pocket instead of the left. It is also a very regressive tax proposal, that would force low income residents, usually renters, to pay more while allowing those with big fancy homes to pay less.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Thursday, May 27th, 1999, 1:25 pm

From: Guest

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Any reduction in taxes should be via the income tax since property owners are only a portion of all taxpayers.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Thursday, May 27th, 1999, 10:00 pm

From: Marie Johnson (sbjmtt@aol.com)

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Address:

Phone:

The taxes in Wisconsin far exceed the taxes we had for a home with a view of the Olympic Mts. and Puget Sound in Seattle, WA. The Legislature needs to apply some creative ways to manage their money and not impose an inequitable burden on the average worker.

The proposed .5% sales tax increase, unfairly burdens fixed income individuals and low income families. It is certainly a way to gain more welfare dependent and/or homeless people in this community.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Thursday, May 27th, 1999, 10:54 pm

From: Robb Mathia (rob主m@itis.com)

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Address:

Phone:

I am a 27-year-old, single tax payer and I feel that the tax burden on Wisconsin residents is too high. There are several reasons why the tax burden should be lowered. First, the cost alone of post-high school education is rising at an unbelievable rate and not every student going to college has a full ride or any scholarships at all. When I graduated from college my monthly payment was \$300.00 per month, thank goodness they delayed the start of my payments for six months, I was able to save up for the first 2 payments, yeah. It's the payments after that, that really start adding up. I mean that payment is at the new car payment level, and they expect a new college grad, with no experience to be able to afford that along with all of the expenses associated with starting a career. Second, my salary has grown from when I first entered the workforce, but when I sat down and looked at my net pay after taxes I am only bringing home a little more than half of what I earn. That stinks. Just think about that, you make \$10 per hour and yet you only get to keep what amounts to a little more than \$5 per hour. If they would lower the tax burden on the people and shift some to the manufacturers it would even itself out and leads to my third reason. The chairman of the Federal Reserve, Alan Greenspan, has recently cited the fact that now, more than ever, Americans are spending, spending, spending. In fact, Americans are spending more money they don't have than ever before. Therefore the tax break given to the consumer will more than make up for the additional tax burden shifted to the manufacturer and then some. The more money given to the consumer the more money spent buying the manufacturers products. And finally, like I said, I'm 27 years old, I'm not counting on the Government to payback my Social Security they have used up already. Give the consumers more of what they earn so at least someone can start investing and saving for the future.

There are lots of reasons to lessen the tax burden on consumers and shift some of it to the manufacturers, the rising cost of college, the current spending habits of today's consumers, and probably the most important, saving for our future. So I am pleading with the lawmakers, let me secure my retirement, my future, by lessening the tax burden on consumers. Let me have that money to invest for my future, spend in the present and keep in MY mattress if I want. After all...I earned it!

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Friday, May 28th, 1999, 9:09 am

From: Sue Morrow (SueMorrow@aol.com)

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Address: Madison, WI

Phone: 608-236-9798

People who own their own home and make under \$19,000 per year are not allowed the homestead credit, nor are they allowed the \$1,500 tax credit for their children. This should be changed as they are the ones that need this relief the most. They are the poor of our state. They need it more than the middle income and upper income tax brackets.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Friday, May 28th, 1999, 4:53 pm

From: Peter Dau (gcd20jej@aol.com)

[List Messages](#) | [Previous Message](#) | [Next Message](#)

Address: 7725 Lois Lowry Lane

Phone: 827-7803

Are property taxes even constitutional? My understanding is that the constitution doesn't allow taxing holdings and land is a holding. Based on this, property taxes need to be replaced with another form of tax (e.g. user fees, increased sales taxes, etc.).

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Friday, May 28th, 1999, 4:57 pm

From: Peter Dau (gcd20jej@aol.com)

[List Messages](#) | [Previous Message](#) | [Next Message](#)

Address: 7725 Lois Lowry Lane

Phone: 827-7803

We need to quit looking at what businesses don't pay in taxes and ask who will pay for any tax increases to business. Increasing their cost of doing business will result in higher costs for consumers. This effectively results in a hidden tax on consumers.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Friday, May 28th, 1999, 5:09 pm

From: Peter Dau (gcd20jei@aol.com)

[List Messages](#) | [Previous Message](#) | [Next Message](#)

Address: 7725 Lois Lowry Lane

Phone: 827-7803

Move away from taxes and towards user fees so people pay for their choices. The Wis. State Journal had an editorial today condemning school fees. Instead, they should be praising schools for charging parents that decided to have kids rather than raising taxes on everyone. We have 3 kids so far so I'm not just looking to put costs on others. I'm looking for people to take responsibility for their decisions and that's one of the reasons we'll be homeschooling our kids. For this, our taxes continue to go up to pay for others education without any tax breaks for our educational costs.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Friday, May 28th, 1999, 5:14 pm

From: Peter Dau (gcd20jej@aol.com)

[List Messages](#) | [Previous Message](#) | [Next Message](#)

Address: 7725 Lois Lowry Lane

Phone: 827-7803

Provide incentives for more people to stay home and teach their own kids. It costs \$8,000 per year to teach a student in public schools. With over 17,000 homeschoolers in Wisconsin, they are saving tax payers over 13 million a year. Having more people go this route not only reduces the need for more or bigger schools, it addresses the main success factor in educating children: having parents involved.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Friday, May 28th, 1999, 8:28 pm

From: w. gojmerac (waltgoj@aol.com)

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Address: madison, wi

Phone:

close the business tax loopholes such as exempting computers and machinery and equipment exemption. How about campaign financing reforms, rather than just talking about it

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Saturday, May 29th, 1999, 12:54 pm

From: Guest

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Address:

Phone:

Given the potential tax revenue that could be realized through restructuring the taxes paid by businesses, it seems criminal to even contemplate the horrific reduction in the human services budget that is being considered by this administration. Community care for the elderly and disabled has been proven to be both cost effective and enhancing to the lives of the individuals served as well as the communities who benefit from maintaining a rich and diverse population. COP dollars have to increase. We should not be proud of the fact that WI has more nursing home beds than almost every other state. The nursing home industry enjoyed the safe growth status for many years as is now being enjoyed by the penal system. That reveals way too much about the make up of our state government than they would appreciate. It is imperative that we look at the enormous explosion of older adults immediately and put in place a system of community care that will allow them to remain fully contributing members of their communities well into advanced old age. It is a population you cannot adjust. It's all of us and you can't legislate to change that. You may change criminal justice penalties to reduce prison populations but we are just all going to get older no matter what.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Sunday, May 30th, 1999, 7:07 am

From: Tom Spear (tspear@mail.tcbi.com)

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Address: 1203 Westwood Lane, Manitowoc, WI 54220

Phone: 1-920-682-5980

When are lawmakers going to look at the "fat" in Madison and the internal inefficiency, instead of trying to figure out new ways to tax business and the people of the state. Our gas tax is one of the highest and it is not used entirely for roads, we have a \$10.00 small business fee that is paid every two years, it probably costs more to collect it and keep track of it. When is the last time someone took a look at streamlining the internal workings of Madison? People in the high tax brackets move out of the state to avoid the state tax and maintain a second residence here. The news agencies should put pressure on our representatives to streamline government and government expense!!!

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Monday, May 24th, 1999, 6:29 pm

From: Charles McEniry (ctmceniry@students.wisc.edu)

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Address: Stoughton
Phone: 877-0300

Taxes are never fair. Someone always feels slighted or used. As an example, consider two neighbors who live in comparable houses. One house is occupied by a retired individual on a fixed income; in the other, a married professional couple whose combined wages is easily in 6 figures. Yet both pay the same property tax since both houses are identical. Is it really fair to tax a person with a fixed income in the same manner as the professional couple with good salaries? I say not. It is time to take schools off property taxes. It is time to shift the tax burden to those who can most easily afford to pay, those lucky individuals who make good money. If schools were eliminated wholly from property taxes, our houses would indeed be assessed at what they are worth.

I've lived in my house for nearly 10 years and over that time have paid an average \$3000 per year in property tax. Add it up. That's \$30,000 in taxes paid during that 10 year period. And, for what? Most of it now goes to the schools.

I have no children. My income is almost non-existent since returning to school.

Legislators have been given certain powers by us, the electorate, among which are the powers to tax. It's time we take back that power and tell them how to tax, whom to tax and where that money ought to be spent. Perhaps our complacency comes from the fact that rarely, if ever, are we ever "bothered" by government in our lives. We squawk at tax time a bit, but soon return to our comfortable lives without any further involvement in how the show's being run and by whom. We obediently believe what is being told to us by those we've elected. Of course, if we aren't smart enough to reverse the situation, we deserve what we get --- high and higher taxes.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Monday, May 24th, 1999, 10:09 pm

From: Guest

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Address:

Phone:

Property taxes in WI are beyond absurd. We moved here one year ago from Atlanta. Our property taxes there were \$1100. Our taxes here, on a smaller home, are \$4950. I don't understand the complacent attitude here. The citizens should be storming the Capitol steps.

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Wednesday, May 26th, 1999, 9:10 pm

From: Brendon Wilkinson (deeknmick@aol.com)

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Address: 6318 Dyllyn Drive

Phone: 848-2078

It is time to take a serious look at the Wisconsin property tax situation. The answer is not to burden our own local businesses who support and provide for the workers of Wisconsin, but to fund and reduce property taxes from our growing tourist population. An increased sales tax to 6%-6.5% and highway tolls are two prime examples of tapping this source.

It seems unfair that similar sized homes in other areas of the country demand a third of the real estate taxes that Madison homes currently do.

Madison leaders need to make property taxes a top priority. Stop talking and start doing!!!

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Be Your Own Lobbyist

Time: Monday, May 24th, 1999, 7:23 pm

From: Carrie Staben (cstaben@baraboo.net)

[List Messages](#) | [Previous Message](#) | [Next Message](#)

Address: 1620 Draper Street

Phone:

We moved here 6 mos. ago and are living paycheck to paycheck. WI might have the jobs but with housing and taxes so high you don't have money left to even go to a movie once an awhile. We should pay taxes based on your yearly income. People will leave the state because they can't afford to live here and employers will have to shut down because they can't find people to work and thats already the case in alot of places. I really like WI and I don't want to leave because we can't afford to live here.

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