



News From  
Illinois House Republicans

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## **DuPage Legislators Invite Businesses, Residents to Attend Hearing on Proposed Gross Receipts Tax**

DuPage County, IL... Upon receiving widespread concern over the Governor's proposed Gross Receipts Tax, DuPage legislators are hosting an April hearing on the subject, saying they would like to hear more from businesses and residents who will largely bear the brunt of this tax increase.

"I have received quite a bit of feedback on this issue ever since it was unveiled at the Governor's State Address in March," said State Rep. Patti Bellock (R-Westmont). "It's important we reach out to our communities to let them know how this change will affect them."

State Representatives Sandy Pihos (R-Glen Ellyn), Jim Durkin (R-Western Springs) and Bob Biggins (R-Elmhurst) will join Bellock at **7 p.m. Monday, April 16**, to present information regarding the proposed tax increase. The legislators are welcoming feedback from businesses and residents as well.

The hearing will be held at the **Esplanade Conference Center, Forum C, Second Floor, 2111 Butterfield Road, Downers Grove 60515**. The Conference Center is connected to the Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel by an adjacent skywalk.

"This is the largest tax increase ever proposed in Illinois and businesses will be forced to pay more on top of the property, payroll, income and sales taxes that they already pay," said Rep. Sandy Pihos. "If businesses move out of state, we will lose thousands of high-paying jobs."

Rep. Jim Durkin, who represents communities in Cook, DuPage and Will counties, said if passed, the tax will be levied on every step of the manufacturing process. The end result will force businesses to pass the additional costs to consumers in the form of higher prices.

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“We can’t foster competition with a business climate that does not favor a strong efficient economy,” Durkin said. “I have many small business owners in my district who can’t afford to take on more taxes. They could be forced to close shop and vacate our business districts, causing a loss in local revenues for our communities.”

The Governor has proposed the tax as a way to create “tax fairness” and generate a net increase of \$6 billion for programs and initiatives. Similar taxes were instituted during the Great Depression as a way to generate revenues but many states repealed its taxes in favor of other taxes that would promote greater competition. Neighboring Indiana just recently abolished its gross receipts tax as a way of encouraging more technology-based companies to settle in the state.

“We should be encouraging healthy economic growth in the state, not making it more difficult for them to set up business,” said Rep. Bob Biggins. “In order for us to compete with other states, we need to give incentives for owners to look at Illinois. We’re closing the door to new business opportunities if we tax every step of the process.”

All members of the business community, chambers of commerce, and interested residents are encouraged to attend the April 16<sup>th</sup> event. Media is welcome.

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