Illinois needs a long-term solution to our state’s fiscal problems—now. A fair tax, with lower rates for the middle class and higher rates for higher incomes, will help to ensure Illinois’ financial stability and get our fiscal house in order.

Illinois is one of only nine states in the U.S. that has a flat income tax structure and is one of only four states that constitutionally requires a flat income tax.

The federal government and 32 states, including Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin, apply higher tax rates to higher incomes and lower tax rates to lower incomes.

For the past several decades, virtually all income growth has been made at the top income levels. A flat tax fails to capture that growth.

**TOTAL STATE & LOCAL TAXES IN ILLINOIS, 2018 (ITEP)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Shares of Family Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOWEST 20%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECOND 20%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDDLE 20%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOURTH 20%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEXT 15%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEXT 4%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOP 1%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INCOME RANGE:
- <$21.8K
- $21.8K-$40.8K
- $40.8K-$63.8K
- $63.8K-$109.5K
- $109.5K-$231.5K
- $231.5K-$537.4K
- <$537.4K
ILLINOISANS WANT A FAIR TAX

According to a 2018 poll conducted by the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at SIU Carbondale, 72 percent of people in Illinois support amending the constitution to allow for a fair tax.

This includes 51 percent of Republicans, 68 percent of people living down-state, and 66 percent of individuals earning over $100,000.

A FAIR TAX WOULD IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ILLINOISANS

Providing Illinois with the revenue needed for public investment must come first. As seen throughout the two years that Illinois went without a budget, families, businesses, social service providers, and schools suffer when there isn’t enough revenue.

A fair tax could bolster funding needed for critical public investments without balancing the budget on the backs of low- and middle-income families.

- **61,700 fewer students** were enrolled in public universities and colleges across Illinois (Illinois Economic Policy Institute).
- **22,000 seniors outside of Chicago** have lost access to services such as home delivered meals, transportation, and help accessing resources (Age Options).
- **As rates of opioid addiction steadily rise, over 24,000 fewer Illinoisians** were admitted to addiction treatment services (Illinois Association for Behavioral Health).
- **Nearly 47,000 fewer children** receive childcare assistance (SEIU Healthcare).
- **In 2016, more than 3,600 adults and 4,200 children** seeking shelter due to domestic violence were turned away because of shelter closings, staff reductions, and termination of programs (Chicago Foundation for Women).