

TUA NEWS RELEASE

Taxpayers United of America

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Where Is The Money Going?

Chicago- After months of publicizing an increase in the Illinois gas tax, tax raisers have formally announced their ambitions. SB 102 proposed by State Sen. Martin Sandoval (D-11) would double the motor fuel tax from \$.19 per gallon to \$.38 per gallon. Additionally, Sandoval's bill would increase the passenger vehicle registration fee to \$148 from \$98, and the electric vehicle fee to \$148 from \$17.50. Most driver's license fees would increase to \$60 from \$30, while truck registration fees would rise by \$100. These tax increases would be expected to bring in an additional two billion dollars for Illinois government annually.

Advocates for the tax increase argue that Illinois needs this bill, but President of Taxpayers United of America Jim Tobin has a question. "Where is the money going?"

"We know not all of the money from the Illinois state gas tax goes to roads," said Tobin. "Also, despite politicians saying so at every opportunity, Illinois roads and bridges are not crumbling."

"Springfield and Chicago tax-raisers are spreading false information about Illinois roads. According to the Reason Foundation's 23rd Annual Highway Report, which ranks the performance of state highway systems in 11 categories, including spending per mile, pavement conditions, deficient bridges, traffic congestion, and fatality rates, Illinois ranks 28th. Illinois roads are actually in the middle of the pack."

"As for the disinformation politicians are spreading to terrify the public into thinking that Illinois bridges are unsafe and are about to collapse, the Reason Foundation found that Illinois bridges are the seventh-lowest in the 50 states in number of bridges in deficient condition. That these lying politicians are spreading lies about Illinois bridges to frighten people is outrageous."

"On behalf of Illinois Taxpayers I demand that Illinois lawmakers tell the public what the money is really being used for."