



# LIBERTARIAN PARTY of ILLINOIS

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Minimum Government - Maximum Freedom

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## LP-Illinois Chair to Springfield on Budget: "They're at it again!"

SPRINGFIELD - The Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Illinois is rallying against the partisan politics that continue to plague the state budget situation in Illinois.

"They're at it again! Springfield politicians are reaching into your pockets to fix the problems they have caused," said Lex Green, Chair of the Libertarian Party of Illinois. The chairman also had criticisms of Gov. Bruce Rauner.

"The Governor plans to put local governments on a diet while feeding a bloated state bureaucracy. Neither is there any mandate in current budget proposals to tie tax increases to spending reductions, which should be the focus of the state's budget efforts."

While the "great compromise" to get a state budget pass continues to stall in Springfield, the optics of the situation continue to be poor. While some iterations of the budget compromise include freezing property taxes, Green said Illinoisans - who already pay the highest property taxes in the country - deserve tax relief, not a freeze. He would also like the state to focus less on local, municipal issues and more on state-level bloating.

"It is funny that the state would try to interfere with more effective local school funding while keeping a \$10 Billion state board intact. It shows a complete misunderstanding of where the problems lies," said Green, the 2010 Libertarian candidate for Governor.

Green would like to see a budget proposal to take on several state-level funding issues, including pension costs, healthcare, and education. Runaway pension costs are the result of long term pandering to special interests in Illinois. Medicaid, previously handed out in some form to a quarter of Illinois citizens, has grown by over 600,000 enrollees due to federal healthcare legislation passed by both Democrats and Republicans. Education spending by the state has dropped over the last decade, but still accounts for over a quarter of the Illinois budget.

Green suggests eliminating the State Board of Education, replacing Medicaid with a program run by the state, and reforming pensions to eliminate unfunded spending mandates.

*Chairman Lex Green is available for print, radio/audio, and television/video interview regarding this story. To book an interview, please contact Chairman Green at [chair@ipillinois.org](mailto:chair@ipillinois.org) or at (309) 530-7114.*

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