



Ohio's Taxation

Ohio seems to undergo a wayward direction whenever the issue of taxation arises. At present, the Kasich Administration is touting its \$2B Rainy Day Fund and the Governor and Republicans want to use it to finance another round of tax cuts. Ohio cannot afford any more tax cuts. Ohioans have been duped into the belief that they're paying exorbitant personal income taxes and that it's political suicide to suggest otherwise. Kasich's tax cuts hurt local funding and forced local jurisdictions to raise levies and local taxes to fill the void. Of course many of these measures fail at the ballot box.

Excise fuel taxes could be increased to stabilize funding for road maintenance and repair at a minimum. Ideally, they could be raised to accomplish other tasks, such as seed money for mass transit systems. If Ohioans witnessed a strong revitalization toward just getting better roads to drive on, bridges to cross and feeling good about the option to hop on a train to work rather than get stuck in traffic, then taxes wouldn't be perceived as such as burden after all.



The state educational system for primary and secondary schooling needs to generate revenue for its needs on some form of taxation other than relying primarily on property taxation. A number of school districts in Ohio do apply a 1-2% local income tax to fund their budgets rather than using property taxes. The Ohio Democratic Party needs to get ahead in this issue because the other side isn't even mentioning it all despite being instructed by the State Supreme Court to amend it. This is a critical time for this particular issue as Ohioans, like everyone else, are aging and school populations are decreasing too.

Ohio needs to implement also a rational and mutually agreed-upon tax plan for the oil and gas industry. This is a vital piece to the overall plan in jumpstarting Ohio's economy. Careful, smart taxation-planning can provide long-term benefits for these specific businesses and related government sectors alike, promoting growth for all concerned.