

# TUA NEWS RELEASE

## TAXPAYERS UNITED OF AMERICA

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## GOV'T SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES OF WAYNE COUNTY REVEL AT TAXPAYER EXPENSE

WAYNE COUNTY--A new report by Taxpayers United of America (TUA) reveals that many government school employees and retirees of Wayne County, Illinois receive lavish, gold-plated salaries and pensions that far exceed average annual wages of workers in the private sector.

"These outrageous government-employee pensions are bankrupting the state," said Jim Tobin, TUA President. "Springfield House and Senate Democrats just temporarily raised the state personal income tax 67%, all \$6.8 billion taxpayer dollars of which is being used to fund the state's lavish retired government employee pension programs."

"Despite Wayne County's 8.1% unemployment rate, public school employees are really raking it in," said Tobin. "The largest salary goes to **David Savage**, of Fairfield Comm HS District 225, whose annual salary is \$116,076. **Jeffery Mitchell**, of Wayne County CUSD 100, is close behind, making \$105,450."

"Wayne County's retired public school teachers in the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) are also getting rich" said Tobin. "The largest annual TRS pension goes to **Gilbert D Hanneken** formerly of Fairfield Public SD 112, whose annual pension is a staggering \$116,957.64-- \$9746 a month. **Donald E. Warkins**, formerly of Fairfield CHSD 225, already has received a total pension payout of \$949,839.

Those in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF), which is funded by our property taxes, are collecting lavish pensions. One of the largest IMRF pensions in Wayne County goes to **Warren Schramer**, formerly of the Wayne Township, who has made \$142,613 off of his pension to date, and is still collecting \$34,519 annually. **Thomas Cannon**, also formerly of the City of Berwyn, collects a pension of \$27,215 a year. To date **Cannon** has raked in an accumulated \$391,507.

These retired government employees are sucking the system dry. But the four-year state income tax surcharge can be allowed to expire without cutting government services if the proper reforms are taken.

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*Founded in 1976, TUA is one of the largest taxpayer organizations in America.*

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