

TUA NEWS RELEASE

TAXPAYERS UNITED OF AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 20, 2017

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Taxpayers Oppose 7 Property Tax Increase Referenda April 4

Chicago – Government bureaucrats want voters to approve seven property tax increase referenda on the April 4, 2017 ballot, but Taxpayers United of America’s (TUA) president, Jim Tobin, says opposing these measures is best for residents concerned with their skyrocketing property taxes, their homes, and their livelihood.

“Whether the proposal to voters is to enact home rule, which gives unlimited taxing authority to local bureaucrats, or to issue tens of millions of dollars in new bonds and raise property taxes, taxpayers in these six communities must reject these seven referenda on the April 4 ballot to avoid disastrous increases to their property tax bills,” said Tobin.

TUA and local supporters are opposing two home rule referenda in **Lynwood** and **Coal City** and government school property tax increase referenda in **Berwyn, Evanston, Hinsdale, and Oak Park**.

You can download PDFs of our ‘Vote No’ flyers below for printing and distribution.

- [Lynwood](#)
- [Coal City](#)
- [Berwyn South SD 100](#)
- [Evanston/Skokie CCSD 65](#)
- [Hinsdale Township HSD 86](#)
- [Oak Park SD 97](#)

“On November 4, 2014, sixty percent of voters rejected the last attempt by government bureaucrats to impose home rule on the taxpayers of **Lynwood**,” said Tobin. “Taxpayers should overwhelmingly defeat home rule unlimited taxing authority in Lynwood again, and the residents of **Coal City** must reject it, too.”

According to Taxpayers United of America (TUA), home rule means higher taxes.

“I like to call it ‘home ruin,’” said Tobin. “Why would anyone want to give up their right to vote on property tax increases?”

“Home rule always means higher taxes because it removes the cap limiting the amount that bureaucrats can increase property taxes. It gives bureaucrats a blank check and how many government bureaucrats would you trust with a blank check bearing your signature?”

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“Home rule also gives local government authority to tax nearly any product or service they want. What they don’t tell you is that such taxation drives consumers to neighboring communities where the taxes on products and services are lower.”

“**Berwyn South SD 100** collected \$13.3 million in property taxes last year and seeks to increase property taxes by seventeen percent to steal another \$2.2 million from taxpayers,” said Tobin. “Voters have overwhelmingly rejected referenda to raise their property taxes for the government schools as recently as 2014.”

Evanston/Skokie CCSD 65 is seeking to increase property taxes by \$450 annually and the board of Education of **Hinsdale Township HSD 86** wants to issue \$76 million in new bonds, raising property taxes by more than \$450 annually, which doesn’t include future property tax hikes to pay \$24 million in interest.

Oak Park SD 97 has two referenda on the ballot this year, asking voters to raise their property taxes by \$13.3 million and issue new bonds totaling \$57.5 million. The two referenda will spike the property tax bill of an average homeowner by more than \$700 annually.

“Illinois has one of the highest foreclosure rates in the country. You have to wonder how many people could have stayed in their homes if the property taxes weren’t so high – the highest property taxes in the country,” said Tobin.

“TUA has defeated 420 local tax increase referenda since 1977. We urge voters in these six communities to tell bureaucrats that they have had enough of government living beyond its means at the expense of taxpayers. Voters should urge their fellow taxpayers to **Vote No.**”

Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4.