TUA NEWS RELEASE

TAXPAYERS UNITED OF AMERICA

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Taxpayers Fight Back on Local Property Tax Increases

Chicago – Illinois taxpayers are fighting local tax expansion and increase referenda with the help of Taxpayers United of America (TUA). TUA is helping activists in Johnsburg SD 12 and Huntley Park District to defeat property tax increase referenda that would prevent taxpayers from finally getting a property tax cut when current bonds are paid off.

"Government bureaucrats in Huntley Park District and Johnsburg SD 12 are working hard to prove that no tax increase is temporary and no bond debt is ever paid off," stated Jim Tobin, president of TUA.

"Property taxes in Illinois are second highest in the country while unemployment is nearly the highest and state income taxes were just increased 67%. Taxpayers have the opportunity to get a little relief by when current bonds are paid off, but government bureaucrats can't have that."

"Huntley Park District bureaucrats want \$19 million and Johnsburg SD 12 wants \$41 million. Those are huge property tax increases at a time when we should be cutting property taxes. We are still in a foreclosure crisis and some of the worst economic times of our lives. But that doesn't stop the government bureaucrats from raising your property taxes for their own benefit."

"Moody's has downgraded Johnsburg SD 12 credit rating as recently as January, 2014, citing:

- Depreciating tax base valuations
- Declining enrollment trends
- Growing General Fund deficit balances with reliance on cash-flow borrowing to provide operational liquidity

Which means that the interest rate on these new bonds will be higher. It also means that it's not a good time to borrow money. SD12 bureaucrats need to cut spending, not increase spending and property taxes."

"Huntley Park District bureaucrats think it's a good idea to increase property taxes to pay for new facilities that will be used by a very small percentage of the district's population."

"Taxpayers have had enough of the irresponsible spending by government bureaucrats and the willingness to force people out of their homes, if necessary to prop up their own huge salaries and lavish pensions."

"We expect taxpayers to defeat both of these money grabs by greedy, self-serving government bureaucrats at the March 18 primary election."

View the Johnsburg 'Vote No' Flyer <u>HERE</u>. View the Huntley Park District 'Vote No' Flyer <u>HERE</u>.