TUA NEWS RELEASE

TAXPAYERS UNITED OF AMERICA

205 W. Randolph Street • Suite 1305 • Chicago, IL 60606 • Fax: (312) 427-5139 www.taxpayersunited.org • E-mail: info@taxpayersunited.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 29, 2014 Contact: Jim Tobin (312)427-5128

West Frankfort Taxpayers Can Take Back Their Local Government

Chicago – West Frankfort taxpayers have the opportunity to take back their local government next Tuesday by voting 'yes' on a referendum to repeal Home Rule, according to Taxpayers United of America (TUA).

"Home rule is home ruin as taxpayers of West Frankfort found out the hard way," said Jim Tobin, president of TUA.

"After several questionable 'investments' of taxpayer dollars into Morthland College, taxpayers are outraged that the city council is engaged in shady dealings with taxpayer money taken through Home Rule."

"The relationships between the city council and Morthland College as well as the contractors who will benefit from the Home Rule taxes envy those of any Chicago Machine scandals!"

"Home Rule strips the power of the taxpayers to vote on issues of taxation and regulation and places too much power into the hands of the local government bureaucrats. Any government that asks taxpayers to give up their right to vote on matters of taxation has questionable motives."

"Taxpayers in West Frankfort have the opportunity to put the brakes on the cronyism that Home Rule enabled by voting 'yes' to repeal Home Rule."

"Ask yourselves this question: Are we better off since we adopted Home Rule?"

"Is it in the best interest of the taxpayers to co-sign a loan for Morthland College? Is it in the best interest of the taxpayers to make the loan payments for Morthland College?"

"It should be pretty clear to taxpayers in West Frankfort that Home Rule has placed too much power in the hands of local thugs who abuse the very taxpayers who pay their salaries."

"Regardless of what the West Frankfort bureaucrats tell us about the need and use for Home Rule power, 80% of Home Rule and all other local taxes go to fund salaries and benefits of government employees."

"West Frankfort government employee, Daralyn Troutt, retired at the age of 56 and collects \$40,115 in annual pension payments that will accumulate to \$1,727,837 in estimated lifetime payments. The average Social Security 'pension' for taxpayers is only about \$15,000 a year!"

• <u>Click here to see the complete list of West Frankfort municipal pensions</u>

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"The local unemployment rate is still in double digits and a long list of businesses have closed up shop. It's time for West Frankfort taxpayers to take their community back from the greedy bureaucrats who are driving the city into the ground."

"I urge taxpayers of West Frankfort to vote 'yes' to repeal Home Rule next Tuesday. Take back your right to vote on taxes and put the brakes on cronyism and petty regulations of power hungry government bureaucrats."