



# ILLINOIS Family Institute

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from the **Executive Director — David E. Smith**

**A**dmittedly, I don't know much about running, but I do know that there are runners and then there are **Runners**. Lowercase "r" runners enjoy going out for a jog now and then, perhaps even a few days per week, but if the weather or an unexpected change of schedule keeps them from running, it's not a big deal.

Uppercase "R" runners don't take such a laidback approach to the sport. These athletes do not merely run, they **train** and they **race**. Each time they head out they have determined a precise course with specific mileage and a plan of action that will enable them to address and fine tune an aspect of their running. One training run might be devoted to endurance, another to increasing speed, while others may concentrate on negative splits, hydration, fueling, stride cadence, even recovery. An uppercase "R" runner **does not run aimlessly**; he or she **runs intentionally, with purpose and with a goal in view**.

In 1 Corinthians 9:24-26, the Apostle Paul talks about **running aimlessly** and he exhorts us: **don't do it!**

- Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. *So I do not run aimlessly....*

The author of Hebrews is telling Christians, "This isn't a just-for-the-fun-of-it run; **this is a serious race**. Be a Runner – **run to win!**" He further emphasizes his point in his letter to the Hebrews:

- Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. . . — Hebrews 12:1

Clearly, we are in a **race**, and we're told what is set before us is our own individual endeavor. We do not compete against other Christians. Rather, God has given to each one of us a specific race – a unique course and distance – that *we* are to complete. Even though this race is our own, we're told to look to



those saints who have already finished and learn from their example, both good and bad. In so doing, we can determine how **not to run aimlessly** the race God has put before us.

In a modern example of literally running aimlessly, uppercase "R" runners were extremely frustrated with the Chicago Lakeshore Marathon. Unlike the world-famous Chicago Marathon, the Lakeshore Marathon had a brief lifespan of just four years. Though the event was popular, the organizers struggled to attract sponsors and race day volunteers. Participants complained about nonexistent mile markers, depleted and deserted water and aid stations, and a poorly marked race path that caused some half marathon runners to miss the turnaround point and run aimlessly until they encountered other runners who helped them get back on course.

Many competitors were given medals for the wrong distance and more than a few runners never even received their prize. But the cruelest blow occurred in 2005, the final year of the event, when every marathon finisher ran

**RUN** with *Purpose*

*continued on page 4...*



# Pro-Life Call-to-Action!

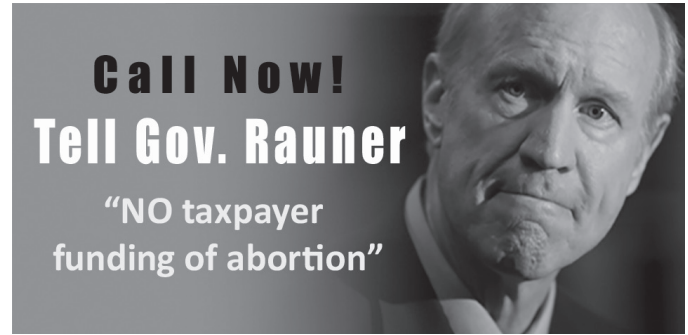
Written by John Biver

**P**ro-life warriors must continue to speak out against **HB 40**, a bill that would remove all restrictions on taxpayer funding of abortion. This bill has passed both the Illinois House by a vote of 62-55 and in the Illinois Senate by a vote of 33-22. A procedural motion has delayed it from being sent to the Governor's desk, giving us more time to speak out against it.

One of the many fake news narratives that Leftist's love to promote is the phony "war on women." With sixty million abortions since *Roe v. Wade's* passage, one could easily make the case that we have seen a forty-plus-year real war on the preborn.

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Governor Rauner vetoed a tax increase; he can and should veto HB 40 as well.

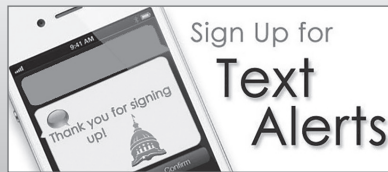
**Take ACTION:** Send a strong but polite message to Governor Rauner urging him to veto HB 40 as soon as he receives it. The public comment lines at the Governor's office in Springfield: (217) 782-0244 and Chicago (312) 814-2121. 



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2

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*Celebrating* 25 *Years!* Since 1992 **ILLINOIS Family Institute**

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**Illinois Family Spotlight** is a weekly podcast that provides analysis of and commentary on political and cultural events and issues.



# Tax, Spend, Repeat... *Written by David E. Smith*

**A**s you may know by now, the Illinois General Assembly approved a massive tax increase for citizens and businesses during the Independence Day weekend. Governor Bruce Rauner vetoed this proposal as soon as he could, yet this veto was overridden and implemented immediately.

Apparently, lawmakers in Springfield thought it was easier to dig deeper into the wallets of citizens than to address decades of irresponsible government spending and mismanagement. This is egregiously unfair to the citizens they are supposedly working to serve. It is a shameful offense that so many politicians chose to enable the irresponsible demands of our ever-expanding and inept state government by placing a heavier burden on families and businesses in Illinois.

In approving these taxes, our state lawmakers ignored the "Report on the Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households"



issued in May. This alarming report suggests that 62 percent of Americans can't cover unexpected expenses and almost a quarter cannot pay all their monthly bills. Taking more resources away from citizens to feed the insatiable appetite and reckless spending habits of state government will only exacerbate these problems.

For far too long, Illinois lawmakers have proven to be fiscally irresponsible. Why should hard-working and over-taxed citizens trust them with yet more of their money?

We've been here before. Between 2011-2014, Illinois citizens paid these higher taxes after Springfield politicians promised to pay down the backlog of bills, stabilize the state's pension crisis, and strengthen the economy.

**That didn't happen.**

Unpaid bills and pension debt are out of control, and according to *USA Today*, our state economy is ranked 49<sup>th</sup>. Instead of using those increased taxes in an effective and efficient manner, government leaders squandered it. We have no reason to believe they will do better with more of our tax dollars this time. ❧



## Who Takes the Cake? *Written by Andrew Willis*

### *First Amendment v. Coercive Government*

**T**o bake or not to bake, that is the question before the U.S. Supreme Court this fall in *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*. In 2012, Jack Phillips, a bakery owner in Colorado, declined to create a wedding cake to celebrate a same-sex marriage because doing so would violate his religious belief that marriage is the union of a man and a woman. Jack offered to make the same-sex couple any other type of baked good or sell them a pre-made cake, but they refused. A complaint was soon filed with the Colorado Civil Rights Commission for sexual orientation discrimination.

The commission ordered Jack and his staff to design cakes for same-sex wedding celebrations, go through a "re-education" program, implement new policies to comply with the commission's order, and file quarterly "compliance" reports for two years to show that Jack has a religion-free workplace. The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear the case after the Colorado Supreme Court refused to hear it on appeal.

It is important to note that this case is not about the legitimacy of so-called same-sex "marriage" (these events took place before the *Obergefell* ruling mandating marriage redefinition). Neither is this a case about refusing to sell a general product such as a pre-made cake to customers simply because of their same-sex attraction. This case is about whether the government can force citizens to use their creative license to express a message with which they disagree.

The question specifically before the U.S. Supreme Court is whether the state of Colorado is violating the free speech or free



exercise clauses of the First Amendment by forcing Mr. Phillips to create expression that violates his sincerely held religious beliefs about marriage.

Mr. Phillips' main legal argument is that his custom wedding cakes should be considered speech since it is form of artistic expression and requires creativity to design a cake. The First Amendment prevents the government from compelling individuals to engage in speech they do not wish to engage in. The case comes on the heels of a victory for religious liberty in *Trinity Lutheran Church v. Comer*. The U.S. Supreme Court held that a Missouri program that denied funding to a church that was to be used for secular purposes violated the First Amendment's Free Exercise Clause.

**Take ACTION:** Please pray for the attorneys representing Jack Phillips for discernment and poise as they prepare for oral arguments as well as the U.S. Supreme Court Justices as they write their opinions. The case has huge implications and will affect religious liberty and freedom of speech for years to come. ❧



## #DefundPP *Written by David E. Smith*

Defunding Planned Parenthood was a central campaign promise from countless lawmakers in 2016.

In 2010 we were told, “If pro-lifers only controlled congress, we could defund Planned Parenthood!” And then pro-lifers took the U.S. House.

Next in 2014, we were told, “If pro-lifers only controlled the U.S. House AND the U.S. Senate, we could defund Planned Parenthood!” So pro-lifers took the U.S. Senate.

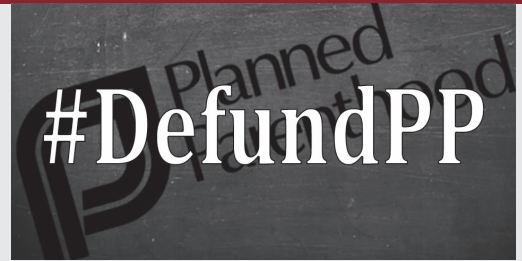
In 2016, we were told, “If pro-lifers only controlled Congress, AND the White House, we could defund Planned Parenthood!”

And behold! Pro-lifers are in control, across the legislative board.

Yet for some reason, Planned Parenthood still receives federal funds.

*Enough of the politics as usual!* It’s time for courageous action. Pro-life taxpayers are fed up with funding a wicked and corrupt organization. Please urge your federal lawmakers to get busy defunding Planned Parenthood.

**Take ACTION:** Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and remind them that pro-lifers don’t want Planned Parenthood receiving a dime of taxpayer money. ☞



from the **Executive Director — David E. Smith** *(continued from page 1)*

27.2 miles, not 26.2. The course planners made a critical error and the marathon course was a mile too long. Runners, who had spent months training for the marathon distance, physically and mentally ran out of steam as they struggled to cover the unexpected extra mile.

Every Christian who submits to the Lordship of Jesus Christ is on a race course. But unlike the 2005 Lakeshore Marathon, this race course is clearly marked with boundaries and guideposts that will keep us on the right path — **if we diligently look for them.** On the course that God has set before us, He provides the support, encouragement, and strength we need to run, persevere, and endure until the finish — **if we continue to seek Him.** And finally, at the end of the race when we cross the finish line, there awaits a lasting and priceless prize for each Christian — **if we will hold fast to our goal and stay the course.**

Paul goes into great detail about both the race and the magnificent prize in Philippians 3:8-13. In this passage, Paul tells us that the reason he diligently runs the Christian race is for the “excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord...” Anything beyond that is “rubbish.” He is determined to “gain Christ and be found in Him” and to keep running toward “the goal for the prize is the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Paul’s focus — and what he wants us to focus on as well — **is knowing Jesus and enjoying eternal life with Him.**

While the Philippians passage gives us Paul’s **motivation** for running, we need to return to the passages from 1 Corinthians 9 and Hebrew 12 to recall his **how-to not run aimlessly**, but to **run to win.** To that end, Paul encourages us to stay in the race, to exercise self-control and not wander off course. Not running aimlessly means not becoming distracted by worldly pursuits or seductive lies and amusements. Resist these temptations! Do not head down their dark and dangerous trails where thistles and thorns reach out to wound or ensnare.

Thankfully, we have the Word of God which not only **identifies the boundaries**, but also **illuminates the path** we should take:

## RUN with Purpose

- Your Word is a lamp to my feet
- And a light to my path. — Psalm 119:105

At times it might seem like the race we are running is all about us and solely for our benefit. But Jesus corrects that wrong thinking, much as He silenced the Pharisees when he summed up the entirety of Old Testament law and prophecy in the first and second great commandments:

- “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and
- with all your soul and with all your mind.”
- “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”
- — Matthew 22:27, 29

These lofty requirements — the habits, traits, virtues, and focus needed to stay on course — do not come naturally to us. In fact, they are impossible to develop without the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. But if God is working in our lives to produce and nurture these fruits of the Spirit, we cannot help but grow in our love toward Him and others. This is the motivating factor for the staff and board of directors at IFI. We want to run this race as **intentionally and purposefully** as we are able.

Hear again Paul’s exhortation — “**do not run aimlessly...**” and consider these questions:

Are you a runner, content with running aimlessly, jogging along when it suits you?

Or are you a Runner, a physical and spiritual athlete, committed to racing to win?

The race that Christians are called to run is contested on a clearly-marked course with many well-stocked aid stations (staffed by the Holy Spirit) and a definite finish line. It also rewards an amazing prize, one which our finite minds cannot fully grasp. Yet we long for it.

We must not run aimlessly, but instead **race with perseverance and endurance**, impelled by the overwhelming desire to “gain Christ and be found in Him.” Pursuing the goal of the unimaginably glorious prize set before us — keeping our eyes on Jesus — **may we run with purpose and race to win!** ☞



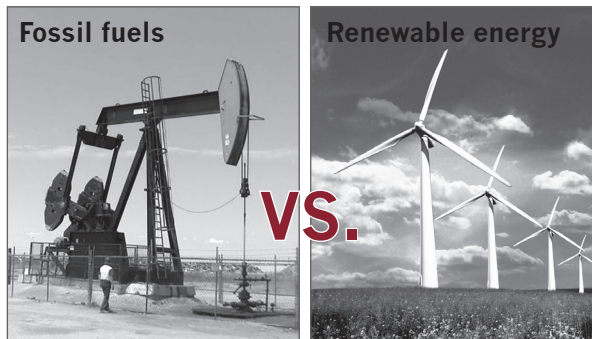
# Climate Change Forums *Written by David E. Smith*

Last year I was at lunch with an evangelist. After the meal, he handed our waitress a Gospel tract. I wanted to reinforce his compassion, so I told the young lady that her relationship with God was the most important thing in the world. She responded, "Yeah, that and global warming!" She said she wakes up in fear of what may happen to the earth during her lifetime. I was shocked. I asked her if she was familiar with the old Sunday school song, "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." She said, "Yes." I told her it was true.

I left that meeting with a deeper awareness of the politics of fear.

The Left uses fear to get people to act. Environmentalists argue that a growing human population using growing amounts of energy from fossil fuels is causing catastrophically dangerous global warming. The Left prescribes two cures.

First, they want to replace fossil fuels with wind, solar, and other renewables. But as Dr. Calvin Beisner, from the Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation explains, abundant, affordable, reliable energy is indispensable to lifting and keeping any society out of poverty. And fossil fuels are and will remain, for the foreseeable future, our best source of that energy. Wind, solar, and other renewables are expensive and unreliable. Substituting them for fossil fuels makes energy more expensive, thus slowing, stopping, or even reversing the conquest of poverty in the developed world while impoverishing



many in the under-developed world.

Second, they want to slow, stop, and finally reverse population growth. Environmentalists openly advocate reducing the world's population to 500 million, i.e., getting rid of 9 out of 10 human beings. How? Partly through homosexuality and transgenderism, but also through government-run "family planning" programs that invariably involve highly incentivized and often even forced use of contraceptives, sterilization, and abortion.

Efforts to control population have unintended consequences. For example, from its start in 1979 China's one-child policy has led to sex-selected abortions, with male births outnumbering female by about 115 to 100, resulting in about 33 million more Chinese men than women. In turn, this has fueled the demand for pornography and prostitution, much of which is met by sex-trafficking that has become so bad that the U.S. State Department has named China among the world's worst offenders.

All of these things led to our inviting Dr. Beisner to speak at our events in April.

I was convinced that the climate change debate had to be addressed from a Christian perspective.

Dr. Beisner did an amazing job helping people of faith to understand why this issue is a conservative, pro-life concern. He ably integrated a Biblical worldview, theology, and ethics with excellent science and economics to help our audiences understand how climate alarmism threatens family, freedom, and prosperity—and how to respond to it.

Yes, climate change is a pro-family issue.

As anyone knows who has counseled couples on the verge of divorce, one of the most common causes is financial stress. Poverty harms families. Driving up energy prices increases poverty and so undermines the family.

To that end, it is a very good thing, indeed, that President Trump decided to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement.

**Learn More:** If you'd like to learn more, Dr. Beisner's presentation was video-recorded and is now posted on the IFI YouTube channel. This 90-minute presentation will leave you much better informed and with a deeper understanding of why Christians should actively oppose the climate alarmist agenda.

<https://youtu.be/0MpWE3qimMI>

You can read more about Dr. Beisner and the Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation at:

<http://cornwallalliance.org/>

## Upcoming EVENTS!

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**September 30, 2017**  
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Medinah, IL



**October 5, 2017**  
**Remembering Our Christian Heritage**  
**with David Barton**

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Decatur Conference Center & Hotel  
Decatur, IL



Go to [www.illinoisfamily.org/ifi-events/](http://www.illinoisfamily.org/ifi-events/) for all our events information!

# Illinois' Growing Pot Hole Written by Kathy Valente

**I**llinois lawmakers foolishly legalized “medical” marijuana in 2013 and are now considering decriminalization and legalization for recreational use in the near future. Some say it would be a good source of revenue for the state, that it’s no more harmful than alcohol, and that it would reduce the prison population and save taxpayers money.

Colorado legalized recreational marijuana in 2013. Colorado’s federally funded Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA [www.rmhidta.org](http://www.rmhidta.org)), has analyzed hard data which they published in a report last year titled *The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado — The Impact*, Volume 4, September 2016. This year’s report will be released sometime this fall.

Here’s a snippet from the 171 page report:

- In 2014, the first year after legalization, marijuana-related traffic deaths increased 62%. In the three-year average after legalization, marijuana-related traffic deaths increased 48%. During that same period, all traffic deaths increased 11%.
- In 2009 medical marijuana was commercialized. In 2009, Colorado marijuana-related traffic deaths represented 10% of all traffic fatalities. By 2015, that number doubled to 21%.
- Colorado youth past month marijuana use increased 20% in the 2-yr average since legalization for recreational use (2013/2014). Nationally, youth past month use declined by 4%.
- Colorado college age past month marijuana use was 62% higher than the national average (2013/2014). Colorado adults rank #1 in the nation for past month marijuana use (2013/2014).
- Emergency room visits increased 49% in the two-year average after legalization (2013/2014). Colorado hospitalizations related to marijuana:
  - 2011 – 6,305
  - 2012 – 6,715
  - 2013 – 8,272
  - 2014 – 11,439

## Black Market Thriving

Colorado has also seen a significant shortfall in anticipated tax revenue. In 2015 it was only 0.5 percent of the 2016 budget. One article in a series of articles in 2015 by The Gazette, titled: *SPECIAL Report, ‘Clearing the Haze:’ Black Market is Thriving in Colorado* gives insight as to why this might be the case. With taxes and regulations imposed by the state, the black market sells it cheaper.

More than 40 states have reported seizures of Colorado marijuana and THC-infused products. HIDTA Director Tom Gorman said it well, “Colorado is the black market for the rest of the country.”

## Psychotic Incidents

Scientists at the Institute of Psychiatry at King’s College London (as reported in the Daily Mail on 2-16-15) claim that strong cannabis causes one in four cases of psychosis. They also warn of an ‘urgent need...to inform young people about the risks of high-potency cannabis,’ despite a worldwide trend towards relaxing drug laws.

**The common element in these psychotic incidents – marijuana.**

**Eddie Ray Routh** — convicted of shooting “American Sniper” Chris Kyle and Chad Littlefield.

**The Tsarnaev brothers** — Boston Marathon bombers, killed 4, injured over 250.

**Darion Aguilar** — Columbia (Maryland) Mall shooter, killed 2, then himself.

**Jared Loughner** — Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (AZ) was shot in the head, 6 others killed and 13 injured.

**Oscar Ramiro Ortega-Hernandez** — shot at the White House because of his “anger toward the government regarding the continued criminalization of marijuana.”

**James Holmes** — the Aurora Colorado theatre shooter, killed 12, injured dozens.

**Jacob Roberts** — Oregon Clackamas Town Center shooter, killed 2, seriously injured 1, then killed himself.

**Abdul Aziz** — killed 5 U.S. service members in a shooting rampage in Chattanooga, TN.

The last thing Illinois needs is an increase in intoxicated neighbors, coworkers and drivers on our highways. Please let your state lawmakers know that you are opposed to any proposal that would legalize recreational marijuana. Pray that proponents fall short of their goals. Pray that lawmakers will not be deceived by their lobbying efforts. Pray for the IFI team as we work to educate and persuade citizens and lawmakers about the insidious nature of this drug.

1 Peter 5:8 — “Be sober-minded; be watchful.” ☞



## Become a Monthly Sustaining Partner

**M**onthly giving is what sustains us as we work

to **defend** religious liberty, life, marriage and the family in the Land of Lincoln. No amount is too small. Contact the IFI office for more information on how to **become a monthly**

**Sustaining Partner by calling 708-781-9328.** Thank you and God bless you for partnering with us!



# Illinois Pension Crunch *Written by John Biver*

The Illinois Family Institute has reported that an overwhelming number of research studies over the past decade have proven that strong families composed of a mother and father in the home produce a healthier society.

Similarly, a large body of social science data points to family decline as a major contributing factor behind of some of the most serious problems confronting Illinois and the nation. IFI works to reduce these factors that threaten family stability and strives to create a political and social environment where families can thrive and prosper.

That “thrive and prosper” part has been difficult for many Illinois families as taxes continue to rise and businesses continue to leave the state. It is not a profound statement to say that economics is also a moral issue. The social science data noted above includes a lot of references to the money pressures on families. The strain caused within many households leads to their coming apart.

Illinoisans have been subjected to two and a half years of the political leadership in Springfield sparring over the state’s finances. Until just weeks ago, Illinois didn’t even have a budget. Included in the budget that finally passed was a lot more of your hard-earned tax dollars to pay for government employee pensions.

Currently, 25% of the state’s budget goes to paying for incredibly generous pensions and health care benefits for retired government employees.

IFI has posted three recent articles about the Illinois government employee pension systems. If you missed them, be sure to go online and read them. (Search pension.) It is not enjoyable reading but it is important.

Why are retired government employees like Chicago public school teachers enjoying such lavish pensions? Why is IFI picking on the poor government employee’s pensions?

To answer that, you first have to realize that many tens of thousands of retired government employees are not poor. Here’s just one fact for you to take note of: the

average retired Chicago public school teacher’s pension is about \$75,000 — which is three to four times that of the average Social Security recipient’s pension.

In the three articles posted at the IFI website some of the more outrageous examples are highlighted — such as the 17,000 retired Illinois government employees enjoying six-figure pensions.

Many of the facts are disturbing. For years I have referred to Illinois’ public pension systems as **legalized theft** from taxpayers. How else can you describe

• **“Pension Insanity:**  
• **\$75,000 salary turns into**  
• **\$155,000 pension for one**  
• **kindergarten teacher.**  
• **I guess it’s OK though;**  
• **it’s for the kids.”** •

someone paying into a fund about \$154,000 over the course of their working years and then expect \$2,200,000 in pension benefits from taxpayers during their retirement years? Those are just the Teachers Retirement System numbers, provided by the highly respected Illinois Policy Institute.

The title of one IPI article is, “Total unfunded debt for state and local governments in Illinois now totals \$267 billion.” Which means that each Illinois household is on the hook for \$56K in government-worker retirement debt.

If you are not shocked yet, let me try with a few more inconvenient truths.

Public employee compensation expert Bill Zetter (whose work can be found at johnbiver.com) highlighted many egregious examples of excess. Here are just three of his headlines:

“Work for the state 5 years, pay in zero, get a \$130,000 pension: work for yourself 45 years, pay in \$260,000 get \$28,000 in Social Security. Anybody see a problem here?”

“Is \$224,000 per year too much compensation for a driver’s ed teacher? How about \$1,174 per day for an art teacher or \$149/hr for an English



teacher?”

“Pension Insanity: \$75,000 salary turns into \$155,000 pension for one kindergarten teacher. I guess it’s OK though; it’s for the kids.”

Is more money needed for “the kids” or to fund employee pension systems?

The worst part of all of this is that Illinois public officials, including conservatives, have known how bad this pension problem is for many years, but have lacked the courage to do anything about it.

As for Governor Rauner, he continually boasts about wanting to spend more money on the K-12 system. Where does he think a lot of that money is going? I’ll give you one guess.

Another critical issue is also typically ignored. Looking at just the teacher union contracts with local school districts, they are premised upon the fiction that government employees and government officials (in this case elected school board members) can legally contract not only with under-aged Illinois citizens, but also unborn future taxpayers.

Here is the bottom line: Government should get out of the employee pension business. After decades, it has proven incapable of being trusted with tax dollars for employee pensions.

The Illinois government employee pension systems are insolvent. Bankruptcy laws exist for just these kinds of circumstances. ☹

**“...but the people  
who know their God  
shall stand firm  
and take action.”  
~Daniel 11:32b**

# Prayer Requests . . .

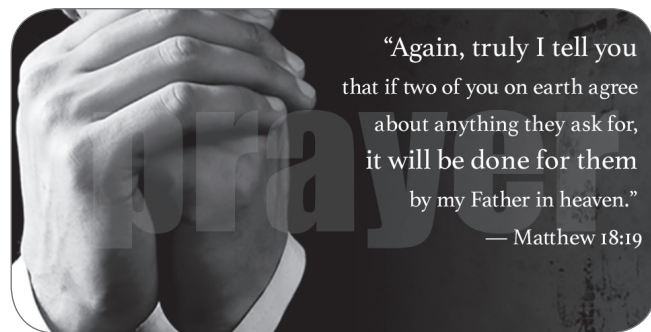
**“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.**

— Philippians 4:6

All around us we see the cultural battle intensifying. It would be very easy to lose heart, get discouraged, and give up. **Please don't!**

There's One to whom we can appeal Who is "able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine." Ephesians 3:20 **Ponder that for a while!**

And never forget that "with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible." Matt. 19:26



## Please Pray...

- Pray for God's wisdom for President Donald Trump, his family and his advisors. Pray also for God's protection.
- Pray for both of our U.S. Senators: Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth, and our 18 U.S. Representatives.
- Pray for the Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court: Chief Justice John Roberts, Associate Justices Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Samuel Alito, Sonai Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, and Neil Gorsuch.
- Please pray that they would uphold and preserve religious liberty as they consider the Masterpiece Cakeshop case later this year.
- Pray that lawmakers in Washington, D.C. would continue to work toward defunding Planned Parenthood and repealing Obamacare.
- Please continue to pray that Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner will veto HB 40, a proposal that would legalize taxpayer funding of abortion in Illinois.
- Pray that devout Christians throughout the state would respond to the call to public service and run for office on the local, state and federal levels, including precinct committeemen.
- Pray that moral and fiscally responsible candidates would have the support they need to prevail in the March 2018 elections. Pray that God would remove from office those corrupt political officials who enable reckless and immoral legislative practices to continue.
- Pray for boldness in our pulpits and for strong, unwavering church leadership plus a willingness to engage the culture.
- Pray that God would bless and prosper the work of IFI and IFA. Pray for the success of our upcoming fall events and the wherewithal to do the work necessary on behalf of life, families, marriages, and religious liberty.



**February 10, 2018 | 4th Annual IFI Worldview Conference with John Stonestreet**

Medinah Baptist Church, Medinah, IL



**WORLDVIEW CONFERENCE**  
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