

Responsible Budget Coalition

Maintain Stable Funding: Make the 5% Income Tax Permanent

Illinois would lose around \$2 billion in revenue in FY15 (and \$5 billion in FY16) If the current 5% state income tax rate is not made permanent.

Losing this much revenue would force unprecedented, disastrous program cuts:

- 13,000 teachers would be laid off
- 21,000 seniors would not receive the help they need from in-home caretakers
- 41,000 fewer children would receive child care, preventing their parents from working
- 140,000 people with mental illness would be denied medication and/or therapy
- 25,000 adults with developmental disabilities would lose community-based services
- 30,000 fewer college students would receive MAP scholarships
- 11,000 victims of domestic abuse would not receive proper shelter and assistance
- Hundreds of veterans would be evicted from state veterans' houses

The negative fiscal impact on taxpayers would be great:

- State facilities would be decertified
- Federal matching funds would go unclaimed
- State agencies would be held in contempt of various court orders
- The state's bond rating would be lowered

The state's unpaid bills, already at about \$5 billion, would grow.

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We can all do better.

The Responsible Budget Coalition (RBC) is a historic, large and diverse coalition of advocacy and direct service organizations. The coalition represents organizations serving children, families, veterans, seniors and people with disabilities, education interests concerned about early learning through university, labor representatives from many different sectors of the workforce, faith-based and civic organizations, along with concerned citizens. All have banded together to urge our elected leaders to put the state back on track toward fiscal responsibility.