

Independent American Party

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Testimony of Janine Hansen, State Chairman Independent American Party Opposing SB10 Property Tax Increases

We oppose SB10 which will increase property taxes. SB10 puts homeowner's property taxes at the 3% cap and commercial and rental property at the 8% cap. Because of the emergency some people have already lost their homes and businesses.

According to the Institute for Policy Innovation in the United States the total U.S. tax burden including federal, state and local taxes and hidden taxes is equal to **56 percent of annual personal consumption spending**. In other words, taxes consume 56 percent of all the average person spends. This includes 19% in state taxes and 13% in local taxes. 56% is more than a person spends on housing, food, health care, transportation, education and recreation. How can we possibly take care of ourselves and our families when government takes 56% of our income?

Businesses don't pay taxes they pass them onto consumers in the price of goods and services. Just as will happen in SB10, businesses will pass the increase property taxes onto consumers. These taxes will become part of the hidden taxes we don't see. In the United States there are \$657.5 billion in additional "hidden" taxes, or \$2,462 in hidden taxes per person. For instance, for a cheap loaf of bread that costs \$1.14, taxes account for 35 cents of the cost. For a 50 cent can of soda 18 cents go towards taxes.

There are many hidden taxes. My brother had a roofing company in Sparks. He would tell people if the roof would cost \$10,000 that half of that \$5,000 was in taxes, fees, and regulations. If we could see all the hidden taxes, plus all the others we pay we would understand that we are not free but we are tax slaves to the government.

The State of Nevada received \$4.5 Billion in Covid relief money. Use that money instead of raising taxes. Nevada was one of the hardest hit states suffering up to 30% unemployment. Why are you raising taxes when people have lost their jobs, homes and businesses? How can Nevadans ever catch up? We hear the giant sucking sound that is the government taking ever more money out of our pockets.

Thank you.

https://www.ipi.org/ipi_issues/detail/hidden-taxes-how-much-do-you-really-pay