

Sir or Madam,

Because I cannot attend the public hearing scheduled for Monday March 9 on the Governor's recent tax proposals, I would like to take this opportunity to share the following three thoughts:

1. Although raising tax rates, in the short run, might allow the State to achieve a (legally-required) balance budget, the long-run effects are pernicious and work against economic growth, the only real long-run option to achieve a balanced budget.
2. On so many measures (which, for brevity's sake, I will not reiterate here), Connecticut ranks last or close to last among all states in terms of economic health.
3. I encourage you to read the interview that appeared today in the Wall Street Journal with Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner, who describes the efforts he is taking to turn around that state, an economic doppelganger to Connecticut. The link to the interview follows:  
<http://www.wsj.com/articles/the-weekend-interview-blue-state-turnaround-artist-1425683815?tesla=y>

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