

November 21, 2007

Frustrating..... to say the least! We have seen our State Legislators transfer more state cost to the individual homeowners. This is one of the main causes for the property tax crisis.

I have and I will continue to oppose the 1% County Option Income Tax. I will vote to veto this tax, if it comes before the Commissioners. I feel the State has continuously violated the 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the Constitution. Taxation without representation is what this really amounts to in my opinion.

1. Welfare - approximately \$120,000,000.00 annually violates our 16<sup>th</sup> amendment the way it is charged against Lake County property taxes. This is an unfunded mandate!
2. Jail – mandated to build a \$33,000,000.00 jail and additional employees to staff the facility. Unfunded mandate!
3. Juvenile Center - mandated to build a \$23,000,000.00 center and additional staffing because of new State Statutes. Unfunded mandate!
4. New County Courts, Judges, Magistrates and staffing. Unfunded mandate!
5. Increased money for schools with the majority coming at the expense of individual property owners. Unfunded mandate! This is the State's responsibility.