

May 19, 2020

Dear Lawmaker,

On behalf of many small businesses, employers, farmers and taxpayers across Illinois, we write to you today to urge you to support repealing Senate Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment 1, the graduated income tax constitutional amendment.

As you are likely aware, Article XIV §2(a) of the Illinois constitution specifically allows for this action by allowing for a proposed amendment to be “withdrawn by a vote of a majority of the members elected to each house.”

Importantly, the framers of the state constitution made a deliberate decision to include this provision and intended for it to grant the Legislature “[the express power of a majority](#) in both houses to withdraw a proposal during the (six-month) waiting period” (emphasis added).

We are in the midst of a public health, economic and employment crisis. More than one million Illinoisans have filed initial unemployment claims since March 1st and [over 160,000 loans](#) to employers have been granted through the CARES Act. Further, the introductory rates associated with the amendment would hike taxes on an estimated [100,000 pass-through businesses](#) in Illinois. Small businesses are the economic engine of the state – responsible for roughly [60%](#) of new job creation. Now is the wrong time to raise taxes on job creators and businesses and inject additional uncertainty into the state economy.

Once again, we would ask that you support repealing SJRCA 1, the graduated income tax constitutional amendment.

Thank you for your consideration.

