

James R. Holden

Zionsville, IN 46077

MUR # 7551

November 13, 2018

Office of General Counsel
 Federal Election Commission
 1050 First Street, NE
 Washington, DC 20463

RE: Complaint and Request for Investigation

Dear Sir:

Please consider this to be a complaint and request for investigation regarding four illegal mailers that I received during the 2018 general election. These mailers lacked a disclaimer as required by 2 U.S. Code 441(d) and 11 C.F.R. 110.11.

On October 27 and October 29, 2018, I received 8 ½" x 11" mailers critical of Republican U.S. Senate candidate Mike Braun and purporting to support Libertarian candidate Lucy Brenton. These mailers, sent to my home address in Boone County, utilized pre-sorted postage permit number 1885 (Milwaukee, WI). Neither of these mailers contained a disclaimer of any kind.

On November 3, 2018, I received two additional mailers (both 6" x 11") attacking Mike Braun. One of these mailers, which used the same postal permit, also featured positive mention of Lucy Brenton. The other mail piece utilized pre-sorted postage permit number 256 (St. Louis, MO) and contained the same theme and imagery as the other three mailers.

It is apparent to me from media reports and in speaking with voters from other parts of the state that this was a concerted effort to benefit the candidacy of Democrat Joe Donnelly through an illegal last-minute attempt to steer Republican voters (like myself) into voting for the Libertarian candidate to the detriment of Mike Braun. See: <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/indiana-democrats-send-mailer-supporting-libertarian-senate-candidate>


The blatant, repeated and underhanded nature of these mailers shows this was no mistake, but a willful and calculated violation of federal law. The most obvious suspects would be the Indiana Democratic Party in co-ordination with the Donnelly for Senate campaign. I request the Federal Election Commission launch an immediate investigation into these violations. I have every reason to believe that hundred of thousands of these mailers were received by Indiana households. This can be easily verified through postal records. Each of these mailers constitutes a "public communication" as defined by 11 C.F.R. 110.26 and also an "electioneering communication" under 11 C.F.R. 110.11(a)(4) (due to its clear intent and proximity to the election). The lack of a disclaimer is a separate violation for each mail piece sent to Indiana

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 OFFICE OF
 GENERAL COUNSEL


households. I encourage the FEC to levy the maximum penalty for these violations in order to deter future misconduct of this type.

I have enclosed color copies of the mailers received and will retain the originals as evidence. Please contact me at _____ with questions of if I may be of further assistance in investigating these mailers.

Sincerely,



James Holden

NOTARY CERTIFICATE		
STATE OF <u>Indiana</u>	} SS:	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> LUIS FRANCESCO CASTELLO Notary Public - Seal Marion County - State of Indiana Commission Number 713577 My Commission Expires May 17, 2026 </div>
COUNTY OF <u>Marion</u>		
I, <u>James R. Holden</u>		swear or affirm that the information set forth above is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Signature <u>JRH</u>	Signature of Notary Public 	
Print or typed name <u>James R. Holden</u>	Print or typed name of Notary Public <u>Luis Francesco Castello</u>	
Date subscribed and sworn to Notary Public <u>11-13-2018</u>	County of Residence <u>Marion</u>	Date commission expires <u>May 17, 2026</u>

Mike Braun *voted to impose or raise taxes and fees 45 times in 2017.¹*

1. Times of Northwest Indiana, June 19, 2017

STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Milwaukee, WI
Permit No. 1885

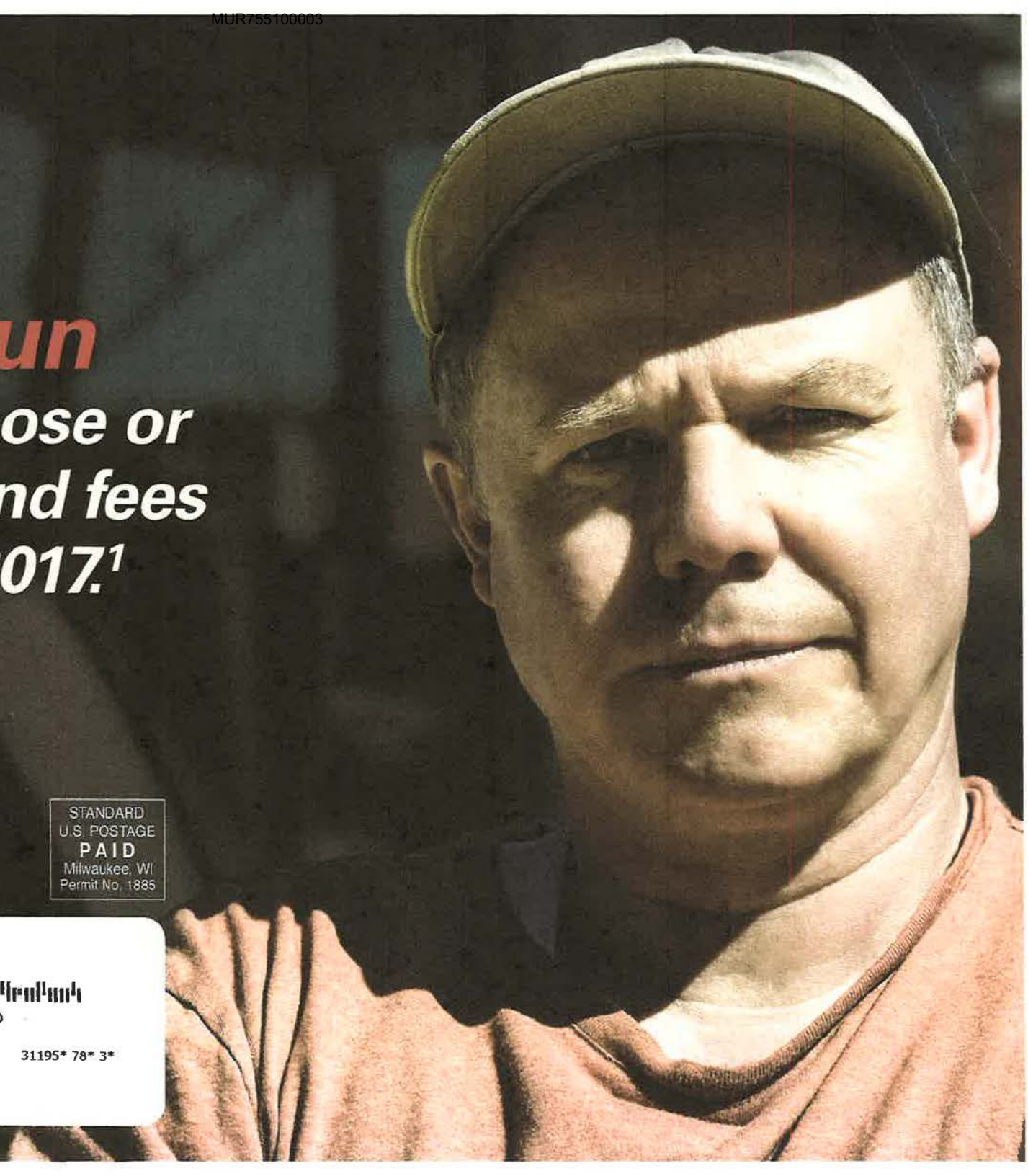


*****SCH 5-DIGIT 46077 FSSD

JAMES R HOLDEN
OR CURRENT RESIDENT

31195* 78* 3*

ZIONSVILLE IN 46077



MIKE BRAUN: THE TAX HIKE KING OF INDIANA

Mike Braun voted to raise taxes and fees on:

- Gas for your car
- Car registration fees
- Airplane fuel
- Teachers' background checks
- Immunizations for students

Mike Braun even supported the largest tax increase in Indiana history – the gas tax, which went up by a whopping 55 percent and will take \$5 BILLION out of taxpayers' pockets in the first seven years.¹

1. PolitiFact, April 30, 2018
2. Indianapolis Star, September 14, 2018

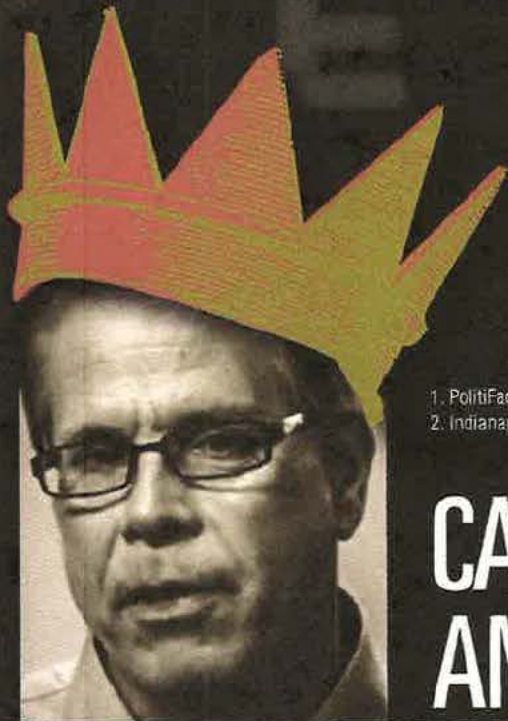


Lucy
BRENTON

Opposed to Tax Hikes

Lucy Brenton strongly opposed the Mike Braun tax hikes. In fact, she has always opposed all taxes that take money from us to line the government's pockets.²

**CALL TAX HIKE MIKE AT (317) 732-8893
AND TELL HIM TO STOP RAISING OUR TAXES.**





**MIKE BRAUN'S
TAX HIKE WILL TAKE
\$5 BILLION DOLLARS OUT
OF TAXPAYERS' POCKETS¹**

STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Milwaukee, WI
Permit No. 1885

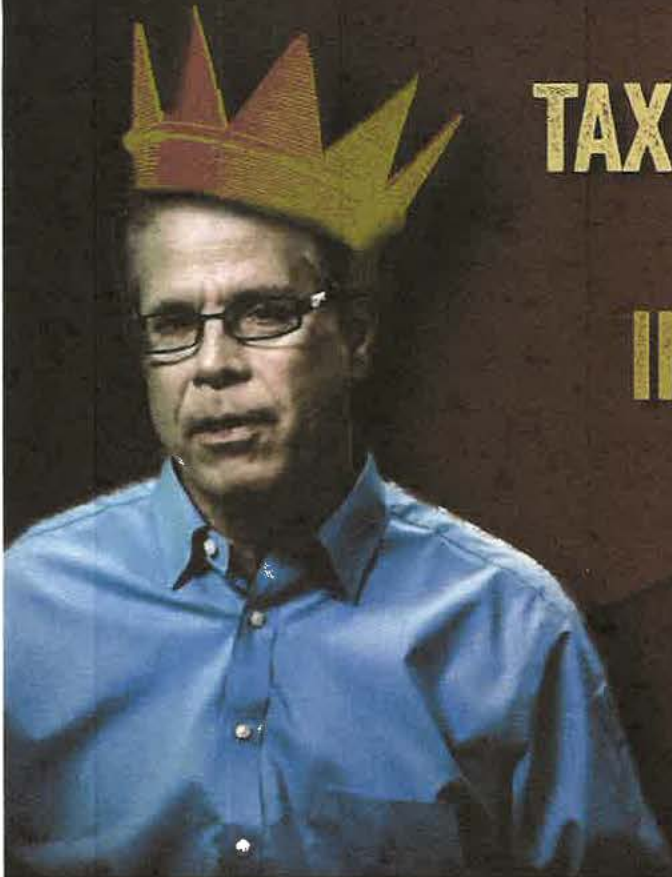


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JAMES R HOLDEN
OR CURRENT RESIDENT

ZIONSVILLE IN 46077

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TAX HIKE MIKE BRAUN SUPPORTED THE LARGEST TAX INCREASE IN INDIANA HISTORY.

Mike Braun raised the taxes we pay on gas by a whopping 55% – the largest tax hike in Indiana's history.¹ Thanks to Tax Hike Mike, this will cost us \$5 billion in the first seven years.

Mike Braun voted to impose or raise taxes and fees 45 times in 2017 alone.² Hoosiers are paying more for all sorts of things, from car registration fees to immunizations for students. Even our teachers must pay more for their own required background checks.

CALL TAX HIKE MIKE AT (317) 732-8893 AND TELL HIM TO STOP RAISING OUR TAXES.

Lucy Brenton: Opposed to all tax increases

Lucy Brenton strongly opposed the Mike Braun tax hikes. In fact, she opposes all taxes that take money from our pockets.³

Call Lucy Brenton at (317) 721-3676 and tell her to keep opposing new taxes.



Paying more than ever
for gas for your car?

And 45 other everyday things?

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
SAINT LOUIS MO
PERMIT NO. 256

THANK TAX HIKE MIKE BRAUN.



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Holden

Zionsville IN 46077

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Mike Braun's Tax Hike on our gas will take \$5 BILLION out of taxpayers' pockets.¹

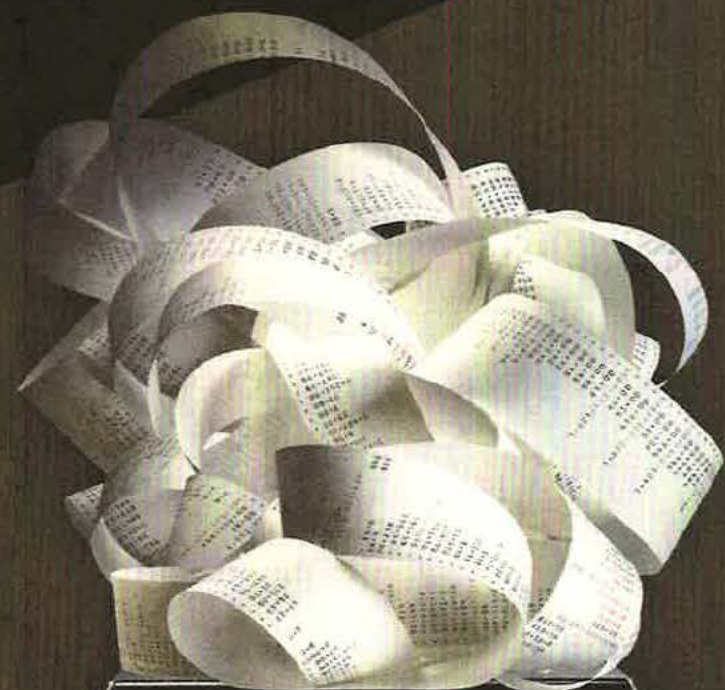
Mike Braun raised the taxes we pay on gas by a whopping 55%—the largest tax hike in Indiana's history.¹ But that's not all. He also raised or imposed taxes or fees on:

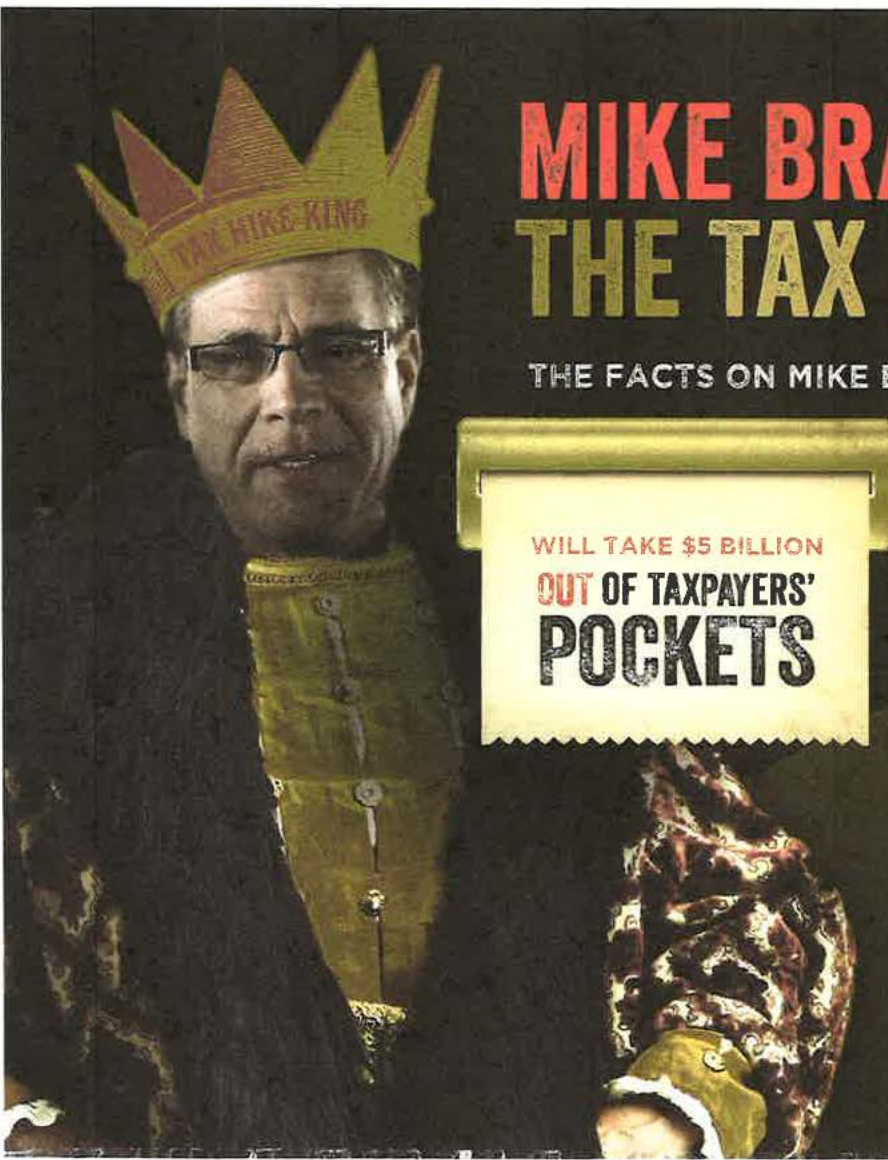
- Gas for your car
- Car registration fees
- Airplane fuel
- Teachers' background checks
- Immunizations for students²

Thanks to Tax Hike Mike, the gas tax alone will cost us \$5 billion in the first seven years.

CALL TAX HIKE MIKE AT (317) 732-8893 AND TELL HIM TO STOP RAISING OUR TAXES.

1. PolitiFact, April 30, 2018. 2. Times of Northwest Indiana, June 19, 2017.





MIKE BRAUN: THE TAX HIKE KING OF INDIANA

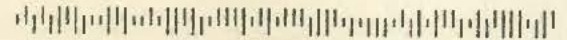
THE FACTS ON MIKE BRAUN'S \$5 BILLION GAS TAX HIKE:

WILL TAKE \$5 BILLION
OUT OF TAXPAYERS'
POCKETS

IS THE LARGEST
TAX INCREASE
IN INDIANA HISTORY

INDIANA TIED
WITH CALIFORNIA FOR
THE LARGEST
GAS PRICE INCREASE
IN THE COUNTRY LAST YEAR

STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Milwaukee, WI
Permit No. 1885



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JAMES R HOLDEN
OR CURRENT RESIDENT

ZIONSVILLE IN 46077

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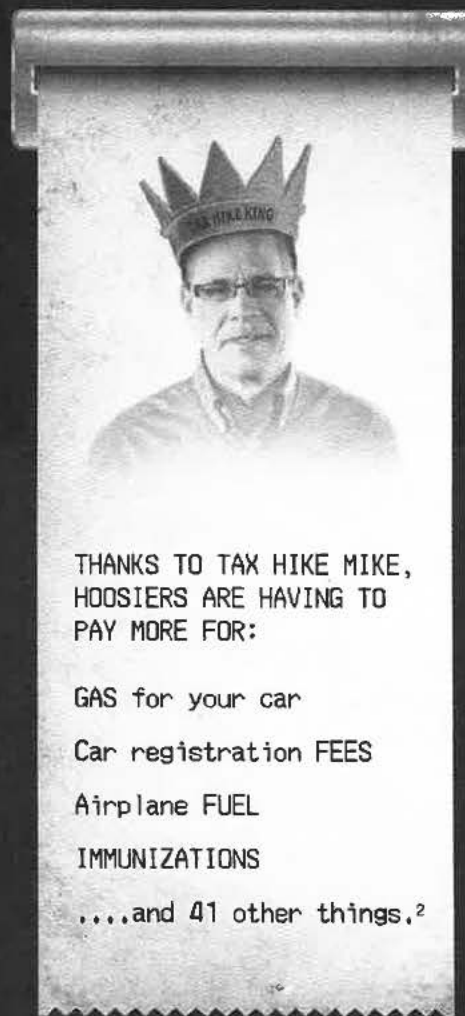
TAXPAYERS ARE OUT \$5 BILLION

THANKS TO TAX HIKE MIKE

Mike Braun's Gas Tax Hike – the largest tax increase in Indiana's history – will take \$5 billion from taxpayer pockets over the next seven years.¹ And the gas tax isn't the only tax or fee he voted to raise or impose.

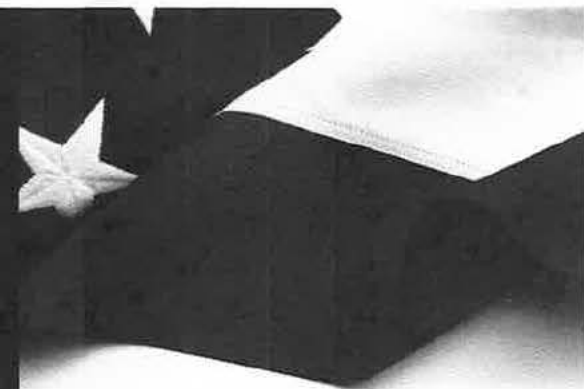
**CALL TAX HIKE MIKE AT (317) 732-8893
AND TELL HIM TO STOP RAISING OUR TAXES.**

1. PolitiFact, April 30, 2018. 2. Times of Northwest Indiana, June 19, 2017. 3. Indianapolis Star, September 14, 2018.



THANKS TO TAX HIKE MIKE,
HOOSIERS ARE HAVING TO
PAY MORE FOR:

- GAS for your car
- Car registration FEES
- Airplane FUEL
- IMMUNIZATIONS
-and 41 other things.²



Lucy BRENTON: OPPOSED TO TAKING MORE MONEY FROM TAXPAYER POCKETS



Lucy Brenton is opposed to Mike Braun's Gas Tax Hike, and the 45 other taxes he voted to support or impose. In fact, she opposes all taxes that take money from taxpayers to line the government's pockets.³

Call Lucy Brenton at (317) 721-3676 and tell her to keep opposing new taxes.