

REALITY CHECK: ANOTHER MISLEADING AD FROM PAT QUINN

RHETORIC	REALITY
<p>Another negative ad from Dan Hynes. The fact: Pat Quinn's plan would have cut taxes for families making \$60,000 or less.</p>	<p>Under Quinn’s proposal, middle class taxpayers, and even individuals making as little as \$14,000 a year, would see a tax increase of 50 percent.</p> <p>“Quinn wants 50 percent income tax increase,” – headline in the <u>Macomb Journal</u> [3/18/09]</p> <p>Quinn fought for a plan that raised income taxes by 50 percent and left personal exemptions unchanged from current law. According to the <u>Rockford Register-Star</u>, “The House voted 42-74 today for Senate Bill 2252, Quinn’s plan calling for a temporary 50 percent increase in the individual and business income tax rates to help fill a huge budget hole next year,” [<u>Rockford Register-Star</u>, 5/31/09]. According to the <u>St. Louis Post Dispatch</u> “Political Fix,” “the Illinois House is debating Gov. Pat Quinn’s proposed income tax hike right now. His plan would raise the state’s current 3 percent flat-rate income tax to 4.5 percent,” [<u>St. Louis Post Dispatch</u>, 5/31/09]. And according to the <u>Peoria Journal-Star</u>, “The Illinois House on Sunday rejected Gov. Pat Quinn's proposal for a temporary 50 percent increase in the individual and business income tax rates. It failed, 42-74,” [<u>Peoria Journal-Star</u>, 6/1/09]</p> <p>The sponsor of the bill that raised taxes by 50 percent with no increase to the personal exemptions said it would be “fair to refer to it as Quinn's proposal.” According to Eric Zorn in the <u>Chicago Tribune</u>, House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie, sponsor in the General Assembly of SB 2252, said “Quinn's original proposal, outlined in March, ‘was never in bill form.’ She said she wasn't sure about all the discussions and negotiations that went on, but that it was her impression that Quinn ‘unilaterally backed down’ on the portion of his plan that would have tripled the personal exemption.” [<u>Chicago Tribune</u>, “Change of Subject” blog, 10/14/09]</p>
<p>Now Hynes claims he'll cut the budget line by line, but as Comptroller for 12 years he signed off on every single state check.</p>	<p>The law is clear. Just ask Pat Quinn.</p> <p>Quinn and a spokesman suggest Hynes “do his job” and “follow the law” to make questionable payments. After Comptroller Hynes challenged Governor Quinn to reevaluate several questionable professional and artistic services contracts, Quinn said, “My view is follow the law, follow the constitution, do your job.” [<u>Chicago Tribune</u>, “Clout St.” blog, 9/22/09] Quinn’s spokesman was clear on their understanding of the Comptroller’s role, directing payments to be made: “They were sent back and sent back with the expectation that the comptroller would do his job as it was charged to do under the constitution,” Reed said. [<u>Chicago Tribune</u>,</p>

9/26/09]

Dan Hynes Has Challenged Spending Priorities:

- **Hynes Took on Blagojevich and Refused to Sign Checks to Pay for Flu Vaccines and Paychecks With No Budget in Place.** According to the State Journal-Register, “Back in 2005 the governor was fighting with Hynes because the comptroller was refusing to have the state pay the \$2.6 million for those flu vaccines, which the federal Food and Drug Administration never approved for importation to Illinois. In that case, Blagojevich flouted federal law. Much more recently he fought with Hynes over his flouting of state law - urging Hynes to issue millions of dollars in paychecks to state employees even though there was no budget in place to provide spending authority and no court order telling Hynes to do so. An agreed court order put an end to that controversy for the time being, and we thought that might be as loose as the governor would play it this year. Wrong.” [State Journal-Register, 8/15/07]
- **2003: Daily Herald editorial: “We support Hynes’ refusal to pay the judges.”** According to the Daily Herald, in July 2003, “We support Hynes’ refusal to pay the judges. Blagojevich cut the money out of the budget. Hynes, rightfully so, said if there is a dispute, it should be decided in court rather than putting him in the middle. So the judges have filed suit to overturn Blagojevich’s veto or to get Hynes to pay the money.” [Daily Herald, 7/31/03]
- **Hynes: Blocking state payment to Bermuda-based company “an issue of fairness and patriotism.”** According to the Chicago Sun-Times, in May 2004, “State Comptroller Dan Hynes blocked \$2 million in state payments Monday to Bermuda-based Accenture Corp. and asked a state panel to determine whether Illinois should contract with companies that locate offshore to soften their tax burdens. ... ‘For me, the issue is simple. It’s an issue of fairness and, in some ways, patriotism,’ Hynes said. ‘I don’t think companies that take advantage of loopholes to avoid paying their fair share of taxes should be rewarded with state contracts.’” [Chicago Sun-Times, 5/4/04]

Where Was Pat Quinn?

- “He’s always been a person who’s honest and one of integrity. I have confidence the governor does the right thing all the time.” – Quinn on Blagojevich. [Daily Herald, 9/15/06]
- “In all my interactions with him, I’ve found him to be an honest person, and I believe he’s telling the truth.” – Quinn on Blagojevich. [Chicago Tribune, 9/24/06]
- **“Refused to Say Even One Bad Word About the Governor.”** According to the Daily Herald, “What if you’re called to serve? Surely you’ve thought about what you’d do as governor. ‘You have to be prepared. You don’t go to bed every night thinking about this

issue,' Quinn replied. 'If that situation occurred, I'd be ready to step forward and do my duty.' Here's what I noticed during our 20-minute talk: Quinn literally did not utter the words 'Rod Blagojevich' once. And Quinn, who made his mark by railing against corruption and the political system, also refused to say even one bad word about the governor. The proverbial cat apparently had got the tongue of self-styled, populist maverick Quinn." [Daily Herald, 10/20/06]

Where Was Dan Hynes?

- **Headline: Comptroller says state borrowing too much.** [The Associated Press, 4/19/04]
- **Headline: Wary Hynes sees budget trouble in the future.** [The State Journal-Register, 9/7/04]
- **Headline: Hynes steps up criticism of governor's budget actions.** [The Associated Press, 8/7/07]
- **Headline: Hynes: Illinois budget hole needs filling.** [The Associated Press, 2/12/08]

And when Governor Quinn had to make tough decisions to fix our budget mess Hynes skipped town, flying to Washington, taking a vacation, hitting a spa in Chicago. The same old politics won't move Illinois forward. Pat Quinn will.

Pat Quinn Still Hasn't Made a Decision to Fix our Budget Mess

- **Pantagraph on October 15th: "Putting Off Addressing the State's Financial Problems ... Will Only Make Matters Worse."** According to an editorial in the Pantagraph, "Putting off addressing the state's financial problems - like putting off paying the state's bills - will only make matters worse. While the governor and lawmakers fiddle, Illinoisans are getting burned. How many businesses and social service agencies will have gone further in debt, laid off workers, ended programs and closed entirely before Gov. Pat Quinn and lawmakers get around to addressing the problem? ... **Now it appears nothing may get done until after the Feb. 2 primary election.**" [Pantagraph editorial, 10/15/09 (emphasis added)]
- **Herald & Review on October 4th: "The State is About One-Quarter of the Way Through Its Fiscal Year With a Budget That is Seriously Out of Balance."** According to an editorial in the Herald & Review, "The state is about one-quarter of the way through its fiscal year with a budget that is seriously out of balance. To date, Gov. Pat Quinn has been unable to put in any meaningful expense savings that would help the state balance its financial situation. ... It's expected that Quinn and the Democrats in the House and Senate will come up with a solution to the budget crisis in January. That date is conveniently after the filing deadline for the 2010 primary election." [Herald & Review editorial, 10/4/09]

Pat Quinn Doesn't Want to Talk About His 50% Tax Increase for Middle Class Families, But He Will Criticize Dan Hynes for:

- **Getting a haircut**, at a place down the street from his house, on June 2
- **Attending a meeting of the Obama for America National Finance Committee**, also attended by President Barack Obama, on June 26
- **Going on a family vacation** with his wife Christina and their three boys, from July 6-9