

Incentive Tax League

Massachusetts Chapter

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SPECIAL STATE TAXATION SUB-COMMITTEE FORMING TO CONSIDER LVT ENABLING LEGISLATION FOR MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Friends:

At the Massachusetts State House in Boston on 25 Feb 82 the State Taxation Committee heard testimony concerning, among other bills, House Bill 2531: "An Act Relative To Land Value Taxation".

Testimony supportive of H. 2531 was given by Professor Daniel Holland of M.I.T. and Mitchell Chanelis, director of the Boston Henry George School, who represented the newly formed Incentive Tax League of Massachusetts, initiators of the bill.

Due to time constraints, the interest generated by testimony presented, and the various issues raised in dialogue with Committee members it was determined that a fuller examination of land value taxation would be appropriate, especially in light of current Massachusetts tax policy and the clear departure from that policy H. 2531 represents. Consequently, a special sub-committee is being formed to gain a more complete understanding of land value taxation's significance for the Commonwealth's future.

A legislative seminar: "Economic Revitalization Through Incentive Taxation" is being organized by the Massachusetts ITL to further educate the Taxation Committee, the bill's nineteen co-sponsoring legislators, and other key figures important to the passage and eventual implementation of H. 2531. Dr. Robert C. Wood, a Boston HGS trustee and currently a professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts and Prof. Daniel Holland, with others, will conduct the seminar at the Massachusetts State House on 8 April 82.

Mounting interest in H. 2531 and land value taxation is being expressed at the State House partly because of the fairly broad bi-partisan support the bill has gathered --- unusual for Massachusetts, particularly in an election year. One of H. 2531's sponsors, State Rep. Andrew H. Card, Jr. is a Republican candidate for Governor and has apparently adopted land value taxation as part of his political platform!

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The Massachusetts State Legislators sponsoring H. 2531 are:

Rep. Thomas F. Brownell	(D-Quincy) * Member, Taxation Committee
Rep. Andrew H. Card, Jr.	(R-Holbrook) * candidate for Governor
Rep. Argeo P. Cellucci	(R-Hudson)
Rep. Joseph N. <u>Hermann</u>	(D-North Andover) * H. 2531's prime sponsor; sits on Taxation Committee
Rep. Stephen J. Karol	(D-Attleboro)
Rep. William R. Keating	(D-Sharon)
Rep. Kenneth M. Lemanski	(D-Chicopee)
Rep. Leon J. Lombardi	(R-Easton) * candidate for Lt. Governor
Rep. Joseph M. Manning	(D-Milton)
Rep. Michael J. McGlynn	(D-Medford)
Rep. Richard T. Moore	(D-Uxbridge) * House Vice-Chair, Taxation Committee
Rep. Michael W. Morrissey	(D-Quincy)
Rep. Mary Jeanette Murray	(R-Cohasset)
Rep. Andrew S. Natsios	(R-Holliston) * Chairman of the State Republican Committee
Sen. John W. Olver	(D-Amherst) * Senate Chair, Taxation Committee
Rep. Steven D. Pierce	(R-Westfield)
Rep. Kevin Poirier	(R-North Attleboro)
Rep. Theodore C. Speliotis	(D-Danvers)
Rep. Bruce E. Wetherbee	(D-Pepperell)

Fraternally,

Mitchell Chanelis