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Dear friends,

The Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, its Board of Directors, and its staff are very pleased to share our 2018 Annual Report. CTBA believes that its greatest successes are still ahead, and we are excited to show you the progress we’ve made.

We hope you enjoy hearing about our accomplishments in 2018, and that you consider contributing financially to CTBA. Your continued support ensures that CTBA can continue promoting equitable policies throughout Illinois and the nation.

Peace,

Ralph Martire
Executive Director

David May
Chair of the Board of Directors

The Center for Tax and Budget Accountability was formed in 2000 as a bipartisan, nonprofit research and advocacy think tank that works across ideological lines to identify evidence-based reforms that promote social and economic justice for everyone. Given how rancorous the current political environment is in our nation, the charge to design policy reform initiatives that are not only evidence-based but also bridge rather than reinforce ideological divides is both prescient and crucial.
In 2018, CTBA produced 7 reports which demonstrate the integrated and strategic approach we take to create meaningful systems change. For example, in FY2018, landmark public school funding legislation, the Evidence Based Funding Formula (EBF), which CTBA co-drafted as technical advisor and worked on for over seven years, was passed into law. And while getting that law passed was a significant success, to be transformational the EBF must be fully funded. But that’s not possible given the state’s current tax resources and the unrealistic, unaffordable, back-loaded plan for repaying Illinois’ multibillion-dollar unfunded pension liability. Which is why CTBA continues to work on reamortizing the pension debt and modernizing Illinois’ tax code – reforms which CTBA has advocated for years.

Additionally, in 2018 CTBA’s research team produced 15 blog posts to the CTBA Budget Blog. Our blog provides timely, user-friendly analysis of policy developments that supplement our work.

To read our reports, please visit CTBAonline.org
To read the BudgetBlog, please visit BudgetBlog.CTBAonline.org
2018 Highlights

Organizational Accomplishments

Graduated-Rate Income Tax: In 2018, one crucial seed for modernizing Illinois’ tax code equitably and sustainably was sown: passage of a Resolution to amend Illinois’ constitution to permit a graduated-rate structure for the state’s income tax, something that CTBA has worked on for nearly two decades. It is now up to CTBA and our constituents to continue supporting the graduated rate income tax through next November, when it is up for ratification by voters in the 2020 General Election.

Professional Review Panel: CTBA Executive Director Ralph Martire was appointed to the Illinois State Board of Education Professional Review Panel. The PRP oversees the implementation of the Evidence Based Formula for K-12 public school funding. CTA’s research helped inform various recommendations made by the panel to support best-practice implementation of the Evidence Based Formula across the state.

2018 Fiscal Symposium

CTBA's 2018 Fiscal Symposium, The Fiscal Future of Illinois, held Wednesday, October 10, 2018 was a huge success. CTBA plays an important and unique role by tying fiscal policy to advancing other, substantive public policy initiatives which are grounded in best practices, are evidence-based, and promote social and economic justice, both in Illinois and nationally.

We are extremely grateful to our Keynote Speaker, Illinois Comptroller Susana A. Mendoza; Moderator, Craig Dellimore, Political Editor of WBBM NewsRadio 780 AM and 10.59 FM; and our panelists, Representative David Harris (R-53), Representative Stephanie Kifowit (D-84) and Representative Fred Crespo (D-44).
Thank you and best wishes!

CTBA would like to thank Gaby Roman, former Director of Policy Analysis, and Daniel Kay Hertz, former Research Director for their hard work during their time at CTBA. Best wishes in your new positions!
Revenue and Expenses

- Contributions and Contracts ($120,760)
- Interest Income ($596)
- Other Income ($4,300)
- Net Assets Released from Restrictions ($470,500)
- Program Services (432,863)
- Management and General ($120,919)
- Fund Raising ($94,962)
2018 Financials

Assets and Liabilities

- Cash ($463,452)
- Certificates of Deposit ($103,828)
- Grants and Other Receivables ($2,747)
- Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets ($31,945)
- Property and Equipment ($4,361)
- Current Liabilities ($0)
Board of Directors

David May
Chair of the Board of Directors
Chair of the Executive Committee

Les Bond
Chair of the Finance Committee
Attucks Asset Management, LLC

Dr. Byron Brazier
Apostolic Church of God

John Cameron
AFSCME Council 31

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Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Professor of English
Roosevelt University

Jonathan Jackson
Chicago State University

Honorable Robin Kelly
US House of Representatives, Illinois
District 2

Jane Lehmann
Member of the Fiscal Symposium Host Committee
Former Elgin Community College Professor

Carlene Lutz*
Former Educator in the Chicago Public Schools

William McNary
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Dan Montgomery
Illinois Federation of Teachers

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Illinois Education Association

Jean Sussman
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Marleis Trover
Member of the Fiscal Symposium Host Committee
McKendree University

Addison Woodward
Chair of the Governance Committee
Former Chairperson of the Division of Psychology and Counseling at Governor’s State University

* Term ended in 2019
2018 Donors

CTBA is grateful to all its 2018 supporters, and their continuing dedication furthering equitable policies.

Institutional Donors

- Government
  - City of Chicago Department of Finance

- Foundations
  - Alphawood Foundation
  - McCormick Foundation
  - Woods Fund

- Unions
  - Illinois Education Association
  - Illinois Federation of Teachers
  - AFSCME Council 31

Organizations and Associations

- Illinois Association of School Administrators
- Illinois Association of School Business Officials
- Illinois Public Pension Fund Association
- The Opportunity Institute
- State University Annuitants Association
- Ullico Inc.

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Please visit us at www.CTBAOnline.org to make a donation, and to sign up for our newsletter.

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