



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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Fact of the Day #5:

Lease of Chicago Skyway Proves It – Mayor Daley’s Tax Increases Will Fund Spending Growth, Not Maintain Services

Chicago got a \$2 billion windfall, thanks to Mayor Daley’s lease of the Chicago Skyway to a private operator. He deserves praise for such a cost saving move.

But Daley’s use of the \$1.83 billion proceeds demonstrates he is more interested in boosting spending than in frugal management.

As the city faces a claimed \$220 million budget shortfall, Mayor Daley wants to hide away most of the Skyway money for future spending programs.

Let’s be clear – Mayor Daley is sitting on almost \$2 billion. He proposes to use some of it to pay off debt (i.e. pay off his past over-spending). Most of the rest he will hoard to pay for future over-spending.

In the meantime, he wants residents and businesses to pay higher sales taxes, hotel taxes, tobacco taxes, entertainment taxes, beer and spirits taxes, parking taxes, and more.

Mayor Daley is willing to tax families and businesses, endangering some of Chicago’s most important industries, in order to protect his spending slush fund.

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact Chris Butler at (202) 785-0266 or by email at cbutler@atr.org.