

Venditor tributum delenda est

*Missouri Libertarian Party Convention
Springfield, Missouri
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*Lloyd Sloan
Co-Founder No MO Sales Tax
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About Lloyd Sloan

- *Harvard A.B. (Economics, Mathematics)*
- *Sloan Ranger Show WGNU 2001-2007*
- *Ron Paul MO CD2 coordinator 2012*
- *Co-founder No MO Sales Tax July, 2013*

About No MO Sales Tax

*Founded: July, 2013
(By Ken Newhouse and Lloyd Sloan)
Facebook Page: No MO Sales Tax*

*2014 August: Defeated Amendment 7
The BEST counties against were:
Texas, Dent, Crawford, Carter, St. Louis, St.
Louis City, Howell, Oregon, Ozark*

The Goal

Abolish All Sales
Taxes in Missouri

("before this decade
is out")



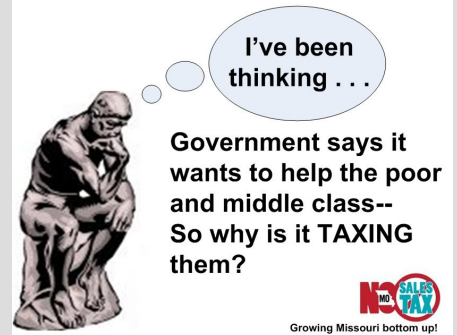
Why abolish sales taxes?

The bulleted short case:

- Sales taxes are regressive. They place a heavier burden on those who can least afford it.
- Sales taxes force businesses to be tax collectors.
- Sales taxes INHERENTLY violate natural (equal) rights.
- Sales taxes (like all taxes) have a negative impact on economic growth. (The taxes with the LEAST negative impact are property taxes.)

#1 If government wants to help the poor, why does it tax them?

Good Point!



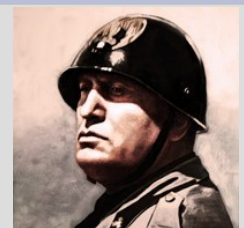
We have two hypocrite parties (not just one)



Another good point!

#2 The case against fascism (Business tax collectors)

"Fascism should more appropriately be called Corporatism because it is a merger of state and corporate power"
-- Benito Mussolini
(Possibly said by Giovanni Gentile, who wrote much of "The Doctrine of Fascism")



#3 The forgotten right to trade

We should NEVER tax what are natural rights
(such as free speech, religion, labor, and TRADE)



"4. Liberty consists in the freedom to do everything which injures no one else; hence the exercise of the natural rights of each man has no limits except those which assure to the other members of the society the enjoyment of the same rights. These limits can only be determined by law."

Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen (1789 Aug 26)
(French: La Déclaration des droits de l'Homme et du citoyen)

#4 Taxes and Growth

Tax something, get less; (Subsidize it, get more)

All taxes harm economic growth (rare exceptions)
Worst to least bad: income, sales, property

IMF 2012 Tax Composition and Growth

69 countries, 20+ years of data

"Tax and growth ranking: recurrent taxes on immovable property are the least harmful taxes for the long-run GDP level, followed by consumption taxes, personal income taxes, and corporate income taxes."

FAQ #1: How do you replace the revenues?

- No "official" No MO Sales Tax single answer
- How come this question is not asked for other tax cuts?

Choices:

- (First) Cut special tax breaks, such as TIFs (Tax increment financing)
- Cut spending (means-tested)
- Raise other taxes
- Growth may cover it

Missouri taxes and budgets

- Sales Taxes are about 25% of state tax revenues (roughly half as much as income taxes)
- The rate for the state is 4.225%

Short-term: cut 1% off that rate over two years (roughly 5% of state revenues) [measure impact]
Long-term: continue cutting 1% over two years until the sales tax is eliminated

Dramatic gains occur ONLY with abolition (freeing business from tax collection)

States without sales taxes

NO Sales Taxes!

Oregon,
Montana,
Delaware,
New Hampshire,
and Alaska

Five worst states:

Washington,
Tennessee,
South Dakota,
New Mexico,
and Louisiana

Is (all) taxation theft?

No, but some is
(a lot!)



"When **more** of the people's substance is exacted through the form of **taxation than is necessary to meet the just obligations of the Government** and the expense of its economical administration, such exaction becomes **ruthless extortion** and a **violation of the fundamental principles of a free government.**"

--Grover Cleveland,
Second Annual Message to Congress
(1886 December 6)

A fallacious argument (against property taxes)

I often hear:

"If they can tax your property, you don't really own it"

I rarely hear:

"If you can't sell your property (without taxes), you really don't own it"

"If they can tax your labor, you don't own it"

"If they can tax your income, you don't own it"

(What you do owe is a fee to cover the cost of government protecting your property)

Adam Smith on Taxes Four (Practical) Maxims

Practical questions:

Who should pay taxes? How much to tax? What method of taxes?

Adam Smith, "Wealth of Nations" (1776) Book V, Chapter 2, PART II Of Taxes
"the four following maxims with regard to taxes in general"

"contribute towards the support of the government, as nearly as possible, in proportion to their respective abilities; that is, in proportion to the revenue which they respectively enjoy under the protection of the state."

[Maxim One: Fairness (Equity) Proportionate with Benefits]

"certain and not arbitrary"

"clear and plain to the contributor, and to every other person"

[Maxim Two: Transparent (Certainty); Direct, Open, not hidden]

"levied at the time, or in the manner, in which it is most likely to be convenient"

[Maxim Three: Timely (Convenience)]

"as little as possible over and above what it brings"

"it may obstruct the industry of the people"

[Maxim Four: Efficient/Least Costly (Economical); Impact on Growth]

#1 Friend: Jesus on Taxes

To whom much is given much is expected

"... For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."
(Luke 12:48)

#2 Friend: Jefferson on Taxes



Miss Me Yet?

"... it may be the pleasure and the pride of an American to ask, **What farmer, what mechanic, what laborer ever sees a tax gatherer** of the United States?"

—Second Inaugural Address, 1805 March 4

"... the farmer will see his **government supported . . . by the contributions of the rich alone**

—To General Thaddeus Kosciusko, April 13, 1811

"... a **commencement of excise . . . is entirely unfounded**. I hope the death blow to **that most vexatious and unproductive of all taxes** was given at the commencement of my administration"

—To General Thaddeus Kosciusko, April 15, 1811
[Excise tax = sales tax]

Where AOC went wrong

SO close!
(AOC missed by one word)
The message should be:

ONLY THE

"Tax ONLY the Rich!"



Ask me about the whig upper-left direction

Lloyd Sloan on Taxes

- No regressive taxation (Adam Smith #1)
- Cut taxes bottom-up (Cut spending top-down)
- Goal: self-reliant, predominant middle class with miniscule taxes and picayune benefits
- "When the rich pay all the taxes, the government will be small"
- "It makes no sense (to freedom-loving people) for government to tax people merely to give them back 'free' benefits with their own money"

In Conclusion



*Roman Senator Cato the Elder
(BC 234-149) concluded every
speech with the words:
Carthago delenda est*

*I conclude by saying:
Venditor tributum delenda est
(Sales taxes must be destroyed)*