

NEW ILLINOIS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is New Illinois?

New Illinois is a nonprofit organization that educates Illinois citizens about their right to form a new state from the State of Illinois and to escape from the tyranny there. We are seeking a state split, following the process described in the U.S. Constitution (Article IV, Sec. 3). This is the same way that West Virginia split from Virginia.

The overarching goal of New Illinois is to see a new state established that truly represents its rural, small town and suburban citizens—a state free from the stranglehold of corruption in Illinois State government, which grants disproportionate representation to certain cronies, groups such as public sector unions, and urban areas—in particular, Chicago and Cook County.

New Illinois is not a part of any political party. We work with people and groups throughout Illinois who are also seeking a Constitutional state split.

Why New Illinois?

Illinois is a failed state and not fulfilling its responsibilities to its citizens. The biggest problem is that it does not provide a government representing our constitutional rights (Article IV, Sec. 4).

The U.S. Constitution guarantees a republican form of government—this means for the benefit of the citizens rather than for the benefit of a ruler. James Madison described this type of government as one that obtains all its power from the people (Federalist Papers Number 39).

Though representative government is guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, Illinois favors certain people, groups, and urban areas—most notably, Chicago and Cook County—which means that the rest of the state experiences *a disproportionate lack of power*. Rural, small town and suburban state residents are not experiencing the benefits of a republican form of government. The State of Illinois' legendary government corruption, fiscal mismanagement and pay-to-play politics have harmed the residents of the rest of the state—rural, small town and suburban citizens outside of the northeastern urban hub.

This government corruption has led to Illinois' current financial crisis. The State of Illinois has driven us down the road to ruin, and is unwilling or unable (by virtue of the Pension Protection Clause of the Illinois Constitution) to stop and address the coming financial collapse. Illinoisans are leaving the state in droves because of its high taxes, high regulations and corruption.

U.S. Declaration of Independence declares that people are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights and can alter or abolish a government destructive of those rights. We believe the situation in Illinois is beyond reformation and will only be remedied through the state split process given to us in the U.S. Constitution.

Why do you use the words “corruption,” “tyranny” and “insurrection?”

Tyranny means oppressive power, especially when it comes from the government. In a tyrannical government, the leaders aren't restrained by the law or the Constitution. They seize more power than they have a right to. In our country, the people are supposed to be sovereign.

Examples:

- Illinois oppresses its citizens with crushing debt and the highest taxes in the country, but the money isn't benefiting the citizens;
- Illinois violates its own constitution by failing to have a balanced budget. (This year, they lied about the budget and said it was balanced, but it is really \$1.2 billion in the red.)

Corruption means dishonest or illegal behavior, especially by powerful people such as government officials.

Examples:

- Too numerous to list—the corruption in Illinois is legendary.

Insurrection means an act or instance of open revolt, defiance or rebellion against civil authority or an established government

Example:

- Illinois violated the U.S. Constitution when it became a sanctuary state.

What are New Illinois' priorities?

1. To see a new state established by splitting from Old Illinois, so that the citizens can enjoy representative government, and
2. To prevent our citizens from being driven off of a financial cliff.

Will the new state formed from Old Illinois leave the United States and become another country?

NO! The new state will be formed by splitting from the State of Illinois. This process, known as a “state split,” will be in accordance with the U.S. Constitution (Article IV, Sec. 3). Several of the current 50 states became states by the state split process.

How will a new state improve my life?

Citizens of Illinois are living under a tyrannical form of government that does not follow the Illinois and U.S. Constitutions. The new state will have a NEW constitution that will restore liberty and rights under the U.S. Constitution.

If the effort to split the state succeeds, the residents of New Illinois will gain:

- A new state government that represents US and works for OUR benefit
- A new state government not acting in defiance of the federal government
- An opportunity to stop the flood of debt Old Illinois continues to generate
- A healthier economy without Old Illinois' tax and regulatory burdens
- A more valuable, powerful vote that has not been diluted by State of Illinois corruption, city ID cards used for voter registration, and other vote fraud.

Illinois State government is disproportionately controlled by machine politicians from Chicago and Cook County. But since this northeastern urban hub is considered the economic driver of the state, would New Illinois be impoverished without it?

No—by stopping the flood of spending, we can stop the growth of the debt. It may be the “economic driver” of the state, but it is also the source of much of the debt problem—while controlling our purse strings. For instance, in 2017, the residents of the rest of Illinois bailed out Chicago’s public school pension system with \$221 million of OUR tax money.

By freeing ourselves from burdensome taxes and regulations, we can create a healthier economy.

The U.S. Constitution says that to form a new state from an existing state, the new state needs the consent of the existing state’s legislature (Article IV, Sec. 3). How will it ever be possible to get the Illinois legislature, controlled by our corrupt “king” Mike Madigan, to vote in favor of splitting the state?

Illinois is in a state of insurrection. Becoming a sanctuary state put Illinois in rebellion to the federal government and the U.S. Constitution (Article VI, Sec. 2). Illinois is also in a state of financial crisis. Elected officials are unwilling or unable to address the coming meltdown.

The level of violent crime in Illinois’ major urban areas has also reached crisis proportions. Chicago’s murder rate has drawn national attention, but East St. Louis has one of the highest murder rates in the United States. The Governor of Illinois says that “the answer is more economic opportunity,” yet Illinois’ taxes, regulations, and enormous debt put a damper on that. Urban leaders believe the answer is more gun control, but Illinois already ranks #8 out of all the states for the strictest gun control laws.

These things demonstrate that Illinois is an incompetent state that is not fulfilling its responsibilities to its citizens. Any of these factors could bring about a situation similar to what happened in West Virginia in 1861. When Virginia voted for secession, a new state was formed by counties remaining loyal to the Union, and the federal government recognized the new state. In the case of financial breakdown, the federal government *might* be able to promote a split in exchange for a financial bailout.

What will be the name of the new state?

Several names have been suggested for a new state being formed by splitting from Old Illinois—for example, Southern Illinois, The State of Lincoln, Winnebago, Reagan, etc. The name of the state is for the people to decide. “New Illinois” is the name of this nonprofit organization. We are using the name “New Illinois” to refer to the new state for the time being, until the citizens have the opportunity to select the official name.