



New Illinois

A New Start – A New State



ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FROM FACEBOOK

Geographic

Where will the new state line be?

If HR0101 were to pass, the new state line would be the city limits of Chicago.

What New Illinois would prefer would be something different. Instead of “kicking Chicago out of Illinois” to become the 51st state, we’d like to kick ourselves out!

It may seem like a “distinction without a difference,” because Chicago would not be eligible to be a part of New Illinois. (New Illinois is addressing the urban vs. rural, small town and suburban divide.) The new state would consist of the areas (counties, townships, towns) that wanted to be part of it. Old Illinois would comprise Chicago and whatever areas wanted to maintain the status quo. This would probably include much of Cook County. However, many people on the fringes of Cook County want out.

In the end, there would be a negotiation process between New Illinois, Old Illinois and the federal government to determine the exact location of the state line. Our hope is that New Illinois would include all the other 101 counties. Our hope and expectation are that the state line would reflect the will of the people.

What about having a new state of Southern Illinois that only includes the southern 1/3 or 1/2 of the State of Illinois? (aka “Draw a line!!! South of I-80!!!) ”

We have been told by financial experts that this area by itself would not be viable as a state in terms of population and economy. Including as much of the state as possible gives the state split movement the best chance of success. If all 101 counties outside of Cook join the new state, it would have a population and an economy exceeding that of Indiana.

But aren’t the people in Northern Illinois part of the problem?

Southern Illinois is culturally and economically different from Chicago and Cook County. So is Northern Illinois. Like Southern Illinois, Northern Illinois is mostly rural, small town and suburban. Like the people of Southern Illinois, the people of Northern Illinois have been deprived of representative government through things like vote fraud and gerrymandering.

People from Southern Illinois and Northern Illinois have a whole lot in common and many shared values. Our best chance of defeating this monster is if we all pull together.

The Process

Why can't the people just take a vote on this RIGHT NOW!!?

A vote of the people—a referendum—is not part of the constitutional process for splitting the state. A referendum only gives an opinion.

The constitutional process includes getting the consent of the state legislature and the consent of the U.S. Congress. The people of Illinois need to vote for state representatives and senators who support this movement. The people should also contact their state representatives and senators who are already in office to let them know that you want them to support it.

How long will this process take?

It depends on a couple things—first and foremost, winning the hearts and minds of the people of Illinois. The process is not simple, and it isn't quick. We estimate it would be at least a 2-3-year process.

Why do you blame the State of Illinois? Isn't the problem all Chicago's fault?

It is the state government that has allowed certain people, groups and local governments to have control to the point that the rest of us are not experiencing representative government. When Chicago introduced its new city ID, which is for citizens, non-citizens, legal and illegal—it was declared to be valid for voter registration. The State of Illinois did nothing to stand up for the legal residents of the state.

Won't the Illinois courts just reject this?

Neither the Illinois courts nor the Governor have a role in this process.

Won't Mike Madigan keep this off the ballot?

The constitutional state split process does not happen through a referendum, so there won't be anything on the statewide ballot.

Financial

Since this northeastern urban hub is considered the economic driver of the state, would New Illinois be impoverished without it?

No—separated from Chicago and Cook County, New Illinois would have a population and economy greater than that of Indiana.

In addition, by stopping the flood of irresponsible spending, we can stop the growth of the debt. The northeastern urban hub 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

How will Illinois’ massive debt be divided?

The most likely way to divide the debt and the assets would be according to per person GDP of any particular area. There would also be a negotiation process between New Illinois, Old Illinois, and the federal government.

Here’s how one financial expert explained it:

- 1) If the state splits, both parts will still be broke.
- 2) If the state splits, New Illinois will be the same or slightly better off on day one that it would be if it stayed connected to Old Illinois.
- 3) As a separate state, New Illinois would have a new constitution, which would not have the Pension Protection Clause, which is the main driver of the state’s debt
- 4) New Illinois’ share of the debt would be a bit less than Old Illinois’ share
- 5) A new state would be able to have a lower tax and regulatory burden, which means the economy would be able to flourish in New Illinois in a way that Old Illinois will not allow. A new state will allow us to stop new, irresponsible debt. A healthier economy will enable us to address the financial crisis, rather than kicking the can down the road.

Activities and County Committees

What do the county committees do?

New Illinois is a nonprofit organization with the mission of educating Illinoisans about their right, under the U.S. Constitution, to pursue a state split. So, the county committees carry out this mission on a local basis. Their activities include helping to organize events, such as town halls, and other outreach to the community. The county committees elect/select representatives to the state organization. They participate in conference calls/Skype calls to plan and strategize. They will publicize grievances against the State of Illinois by reading them aloud on the courthouse steps. The county committees also participate in the process of creating an organizational infrastructure for a new state. Eventually, they will participate in the pre-constitutional convention.

How are the county committees structured?

They have a board of directors: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. They have members who are residents of their county.

About New Illinois - Miscellaneous

Why are you incorporated in the State of Wisconsin?

We were advised to incorporate outside of the State of Illinois to avoid potential problems with the government. We checked with a nonprofit attorney and found that this is totally legal and not even unusual.

Is New Illinois anti-immigrant?

No. New Illinois is opposed to Illinois declaring itself a sanctuary state. We are opposed to our state paying billions of our tax dollars for education and social services for people in the country illegally.

Is New Illinois a gun rights group?

The mission of New Illinois is to educate Illinoisans about their right to representative government and their right to seek a state split. The 2nd Amendment is not our direct focus. However, it is a key issue illustrating how Chicago/Cook County and the state government seek to impose their views on the rest of the state.

What is the focus of New Illinois?

We focus on three issues: the lack of representative government, the fiscal disaster in our state, and the systemic government corruption that has caused these things.

Is New Illinois an extremist, far right group?

No. New Illinois is a nonpartisan organization. That might not always be obvious, since we complain about Mike Madigan and Gov. Pritzker A LOT. But that's just because they are the ones currently in power. We complained A LOT about Governor Rauner, too.

We believe that our real foe is the legendary, systemic corruption on the Illinois state government. It has existed for decades under both parties and is bigger than any individual.

Where do you get your information?

New Illinois gets much of its financial information from organizations like Wirepoints and Illinois Policy Institute. We also obtain data from official government websites. If a source provides reliable information, we will use it.

Why is New Illinois pursuing such a radical step? Why not just try harder to vote in good people?

People have voted, written, called and demonstrated for years, but the situation has gotten worse. The corruption in Illinois is such that conventional methods are ineffective.

Do you really think this effort can succeed?

Yes, because 1) it has succeeded before in other states; 2) Illinois' current problems make now the right time; and 3) New Illinois is following the constitutional process. However, it's not guaranteed—success depends on the support of the people of Illinois.