

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAX**

To impose a tax hike on citizens in this Era of the Coronavirus is akin to a military pincer move. One flank is the tax increase . The other flank is the worst economy crisis in this nation since the Great Depression. Marching resolutely but wearily in a semi-state of shock in the midst is the beleaguered taxpayer, about to be further squeezed.

Those contemplating such an increase would do well to consider the lessons of history. Revolutions have come about, in large part, because of excessive governmental taxation in the face of poverty and severely reduced circumstances in the populace. That was the case in all of the following: the Roman Empire; the American Revolution; the French Revolution, several revolts in post-colonial African nations; and the overthrow of Ferdinand Marcos among others.

We are a civilized people who strictly follow the rule of law, reinforced by state police power. Thus, overthrow is not about to happen. However, there are other ways a disaffected constituency can express its displeasure.

Those who govern would be well advised not expect the constituents to make sacrifices to the point their financial security is further threatened in the wake of the existing horrid pandemic in order to maintain and sustain outlays that are no longer reasonable or realistic.