



Letter to the Editor

October 13, 2005

It's about choices

John Hanna's analysis of the Taxpayers Bill of Rights ("Tax plan, schools lawsuit consider only half of budget equation," Oct. 3), points out the importance of matching spending priorities with the willingness to pay.

The Taxpayers Bill of Rights reinforces this fact by emphasizing the need for politicians to do their jobs. By setting a predictable number by which government can grow each year, it requires lawmakers and the public to set priorities among important policy concerns, including education.

If lawmakers and advocacy groups still think that there is a need for more tax revenue, there is a way around the limit. Lawmakers can request a special election and explain to taxpayers why they think the extra money is needed, and what it will be used for.

Governing is always about making hard choices. The Taxpayer Bill of Rights simply makes that fact more obvious.

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