



**STATE OF ILLINOIS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
SPRINGFIELD 62706**

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

ALEXIS STURM
DIRECTOR

March 25, 2019

Via Electronic Mail

Mr. Austin Berg
Director of Content Strategy
Illinois Policy Institute
190 S. LaSalle St. Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60603
aberg@illinoispolicy.org

Re: FOIA Request

Dear Mr. Berg:

On March 16, 2019, the State of Illinois Governor's Office of Management and Budget ("GOMB") received two emails from you pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA.") Because these requests were sent over a weekend, the Act specifies that they be treated as if received on the next succeeding business day, March 18. We also note that these emails do not technically fit under FOIA since they are questions rather than records requests. In a spirit of cooperation, we will try to answer your questions. This response is being produced on behalf of both GOMB and the Governor's Office, which received identical requests.

In your 11:38 a.m. request, you asked for "the assumed number of returns in 2021". The team assumed the same number of returns for 2021 as for 2016, 6,225,542.

Your second request of 11:38 was for "[t]he compound annual growth rate by income group, and the source for the growth data." As stated in the document previously provided, the team assumed filers' income for 2021 would have grown at the most recent respective 5-year compound annual growth rate (CAGR), that is, from 2011-2016.

Your third request of 11:38 was for “the distribution of returns by bracket in 2021.” The numbers are shown in the second column: “TY 2016 Returns,” and the number of filers was held steady between the two years.

In your email of 12:16 p.m., you requested:

details regarding the estimate of \$3.4 billion in additional income tax revenue under Gov. Pritzker's proposed income tax rate structure, specifically:

- The basis on which the growth forecast has changed from GOMB's November 2018 projection
- Assumed growth of AGI for each income bracket between tax year 2016 and tax year 2021
- AGI for each income bracket used in the 2021 calculation
Number of returns used for the 2021 calculation

In response to the first portion of your 12:16 request, “The basis on which the growth forecast has changed from GOMB's November 2018 projection,” GOMB did not utilize the November 2018 projection, but rather extrapolated from historical data, as stated in the previously produced document:

To reach the 2021 projection, the team used data from the 2016 tax year, the most recent year for which complete data is available. They assumed filers' income for 2021 would have grown at the most recent respective 5-year compound annual growth rate (CAGR), and to ensure the estimate was conservative, included a one-year income stagnation in the event of a slowing economy.

In response to the second item of your 12:16 request, “assumed growth of AGI for each income bracket between tax year 2016 and tax year 2021,” As stated in the document previously provided, the team utilized Net Income Range for its analysis

In response to the third item of your 12:16 request, “AGI for each income bracket used in the 2021 calculation,” GOMB did not utilize Adjusted Gross Income (AGI.) As stated in the document previously provided, the team utilized Net Income Range for its analysis.

In response to the fourth Item of your 12:16 request, “Number of returns used for the 2021 calculation,” the total is 6,225,542, which can be found in the column titled “TY 2016 Returns” in the table at the bottom of the document previously provided.

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To the extent you consider this response to be a denial of your FOIA request, you have the right to submit a request for review by the Public Access Counselor (“PAC”) of the Office of the Illinois Attorney General to:

Public Access Counselor
Office of the Attorney General
500 South 2nd Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Fax: 217-782-1396
E-mail: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us

If you choose to submit a request for review, you must do so within 60 days after the date of this response letter. The request for review must be in writing, signed by you, and include a copy of your FOIA request and this Office’s response. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). In addition, you have the right to seek judicial review of this response. 5 ILCS 140/11(a), (b).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Yours truly,
Curt Clemons-Mosby
Freedom of Information Act Officer