

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **House Republicans Announce Agenda, Reform Property Taxes**

STATEHOUSE (Jan. 10, 2008) — Indiana House Republicans today made clear their intentions for the 2008 General Assembly: to solve the property tax dilemma that has gripped Hoosiers around the state.

“The General Assembly has a duty to make this property tax crisis the last one Hoosier homeowners have to face,” said House Republican Leader Brian C. Bosma (R-Indianapolis). “House Republicans are committed to immediate relief for taxpayers and permanent reform of the property tax system, leading to and including the permanent elimination of homestead property tax in Indiana.

“There are three top issues for this session of the General Assembly: Property taxes, property taxes and property taxes. The people of Indiana are looking to their legislators to end this nightmare, and House Republicans pledge to push bold, immediate and permanent property tax reform this session.”

Here are the House Republicans’ standards for success in 2008:

- Immediate property tax cut by May 2008.
- Strong state and local spending caps.
- Permanent 1 percent of assessed valuation homestead cap.
- Remove schools and welfare from property tax.
- Make caps and levy removals permanent.
- Referenda for local construction and budget increases.
- School construction projects built on local option income tax.
- Fund all cuts with sales tax alone.
- Single assessment official in each county.
- Permanent elimination of homestead property tax.

“House Republicans have one overwhelming goal in mind, and that is to permanently solve this state’s property tax problem,” Rep. Bosma said. “Other issues will demand our attention during the session, to be sure, but, in the end, everything shrinks in the face of our property tax crisis. Hoosiers want and expect a solution, and the Indiana House Republicans believe they deserve one by March 14.”