

My Two Cent's Worth

By: Joseph Andalina

Make the bad man go away

Part I

One legislator, Rep. Skillicorn (R-IL) recently discussed what lawmakers dropped the ball on this past session. Can you guess? Come on now — think. Yes! Bingo! He says the legislation has failed to address and tackle pension reform.

The pension is underfunded!

Oh my — here we go again as another Republican wades into the muck of pension reform. They are the number 1 issue that drives up costs and drives down services he exclaims. He worries that the \$130,000,000 pension debt will drive millennials out of state. Really? This is a new one. Maybe we should just let them go, huh? But they won't leave unless mom and dad do, if you think about it.

So now we are up to \$130,000,000, soon to be \$200 billion, then \$300 billion, and not far off, we will mirror the national debt of \$25,000,000,000 (that's trillion).

Y'all worried about that? What if we all leave the USA over that? Go to Haiti, maybe, or the Turks and Caicos where I bet no one knows what the debt is.

When you think of it, most of the national debt is what we owe ourselves. Can you say Treasury notes? Of course, I'm being somewhat fatuous, but does anyone really worry about a debt that is now impossible to eliminate? Except, of course, those white-haired guys on TV and Glenn Beck, who want you to buy gold. Another dead meat investment that rich folks try to con you into.

So my solution is to just think of pension debt as money we owe ourselves — the price of safety and security. Easier to swallow.

But lawmakers like Skillicorn want a constitutional amendment on the ballot asking the public if politicians should amend the Illinois Constitution. You know, the document the Illinois's Supreme Court will not allow these lying liars to change or diminish as it pertains to our pensions.

We are safe for now, as all efforts to advance such a referendum have failed. None were advanced or even hit the debate stage.

Maybe I can suggest instead of millennials leaving, how about they do?

Vita é bella.