

## **My Two Cent's Worth**

By: Joseph Andalina

### **"Toilets" the Governor — JB wins**

I saw a political cartoon the other day. A woman is watching TV and the telly is blaring something like "The elections are over and we return you to our regular program — advertisements for prescriptions for your medical symptoms."

How true. And true that Rauner the Bruce got whipped and is out as governor. In fact, five minutes after the polls closed, the pundits on TV projected JB "Toilets" Pritzker as the winner. Rauner of the *Janus* case, fighting with unions and government workers, proponent of right-to-work laws and he of the desire to destroy your pensions and retirement rights — he is gone!

I'm biased, of course. It's the self-preservation of not only our pensions, but our unions also. Rauner is a perfect example of how Republicans generally despise unions. You heard it all before, so I will not repeat the litany of bs that came from their platforms and agendas.

And "Toilets," who will certainly tax the crap out of y'all, will inherit all these problems, including a \$200 billion underfunded state employee retirement liability. Or so the right wing policy groups say.

So the tax plan is imminent. However, he will need a constitutional amendment to change the tax structure from a flat tax to a tiered progressive tax where the voters would have to approve, which sets the tone for gas taxes and mileage taxes in the near future. Will they?

He was a choice of two evils. However, it's doubtful that "Toilets" would muck with collective bargaining since labor helped push him way over the top.

But he's a rich guy beholden to no one since he put about \$160 million of his own cash into his election. Rauner the Bruce put in about \$60 million. Can you imagine that? Estimates to over \$235 million for a 4-year job. How do you spell ego?

There have been numerous articles on what you can do in Illinois with that kind of money. It could even make a dent in our pension crisis.

Well, we are safe for now, but in 2020 or 2021 there could be an Illinois Convention where many will be pushing to amend the constitution to limit pension benefits. But we will have to wait and see how JB governs. He most certainly should be better for labor. Here's a wishin'!

Vita é bella.