North Dakota Residents vote to Abolish Property Tax

Tuesday, 12 June 2012

North Dakota residents are a bit different than the rest of the Union. Their economy, banks are much better than the rest. Their unemployment numbers are also way down compared to the national average.

North Dakotans nowdays have something else on their mind. Their residents are asking how can someone who has purchased a home and owns it, lose it to the Government because for one or another reason they weren't able to pay taxes on it?!?

"What if I lose my job tomorrow, or become ill and unable to work? I purchased my home 27 years ago and is paid for, yet I may lose it because I wouldn't be able to pay taxes to the Government? I don't think so!" says Molly Simpson, ND resident.

So North Dakota voters will decide Tuesday on the ultimate tax revolt: abolishing the property tax altogether. A citizen-led petition drive has put the daring, all-or-nothing proposal before the voters in a state flush with tax revenue, jobs and prosperity generated by an oil boom.

If the property tax is eliminated, it would be the first time since 1980 — when oil-rich Alaska got rid of its income tax — that a state has discontinued a major tax, reports the Tax Foundation, a non-partisan research group. North Dakota would become the only state not to have a property tax, a levy the state has had since before it joined the union in 1889.