



# NEWS RELEASE

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**Photo/video opportunity**

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### **House Ways and Means Committee to convene at USI**

Indiana House Ways and Means Committee members will meet at University of Southern Indiana for the fourth public hearing on Democratic proposals to cut property taxes. House Speaker John Gregg (D-Sandborn), Ways and Means Chair B. Patrick Bauer (D-South Bend), and State Representatives Dennis Avery (D-Evansville) and William Cochran (D-New Albany) will hold the meeting from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, January 5, in Carter Hall, University Center.

Avery, coordinator of adult marketing and recruitment at USI, said, "The Evansville meeting will give the people of Vanderburgh county a chance to express themselves concerning the impending property tax reassessment and the effort to reduce property taxes. Under current law, the State Board of Tax Commissioners projects that the fiscal impact of the 2001 reassessment will result in a 22.5 percent increase in property taxes for residential property taxpayers."

Vanderburgh county residents are encouraged to prepare questions and suggestions and attend the meeting. More than 300 people attended the previous hearings in Gary, Muncie, and Fort Wayne. Carter Hall can accommodate 650 people.

**Note: University of Southern Indiana will be closed for winter recess Friday, December 24, through Sunday, January 2. The University will reopen Monday, January 3.**