



Hello.

My name is Bill Brundage and along with my wife we are owners of Brundage Jewelers.

I promise you I am a much better jeweler than I am a public speaker.

I just want to bring a few obvious points to this platform.

I am a small LOCAL Business man. Everyday faced with competitive factors. For twenty years we had to compete with the Internet which put us at a six percent sales tax disadvantage until our government finally decided that Internet sales should be subjected to taxes.

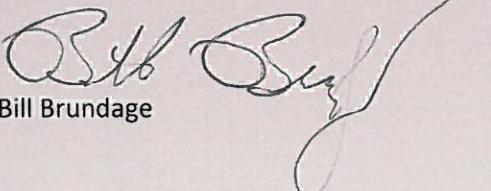
I protested the "just one cent" City tax our mayor wanted to build new libraries. This would have increased the sales tax I have to charge to seven percent. It was rejected by the voters and we still have been able to build three new libraries and refurbish others.

As a jewelry store we have special Block Policies which can only be written by about three insurance companies, presently I pay about 500 in taxes on this one policy. With the increase it would be about \$1,500.00. This is only one of our policies, we still have to pay this tax increase on home owners, property insurance, maybe disability insurance etc. The list goes on.

My competition could be describes as chain store jewelry stores and big box store with corporate headquarters in other states thus allowing them to bypass the payment of taxes on their insurance.

If we want a city, a community that is a desirable place to live we might strive for unique shops that also stimulate our economic base. But this tax just makes it harder for us to compete with box type stores.

This tax should not pass.



Bill Brundage

