

April 21, 2008

Dear Mom,

This letter in response to my article on taxing pensions appeared in the Lansing paper today:

**Tax won't help mom**

Regarding Steve Harry's March 4 letter on taxing retirees: If the state of Michigan starts to tax retiree pensions, how is this going to help the single mom who pays state tax? Does Harry feel the state will lower her tax? I don't think so!

Julia Dean  
DeWitt

This letter is from April 11:

**Pension tax ill-advised**

Regard Steve Harry 's letter ("Tax retirees," March 14): Many Michigan retirees leave the state for warmer weather. Taxing retirement income will drive more to leave Michigan for states that don't tax fixed retirement income, and for states that do not have a sales tax. By going to a warmer state, they would also benefit from cheaper utility costs. And Michigan would bring in less sales tax money and local taxes. Michigan is obviously losing residents from the loss of jobs. Why push out more residents?

Neal Band  
East Lansing

My response to this last letter would be if they are not willing to pay their fair share of taxes, good riddance.

Steve