

**Testimony before the Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness For Georgians**  
**Richard Raines**  
**Wednesday, September 1, 2010**  
**Valdosta, Georgia**

In light of current revenue shortages, will Georgia seriously consider eliminating the State Income Tax and implementing one or both of the following measures: 1. A statewide Fair or sales tax on consumer goods, excluding medicines and certain grocery items to ensure that all Georgians, as well as out-of-state visitors and travelers, participate in taxation. 2. Elimination of property taxes to relieve the burden on home and business owners so they may more effectively invest in business expansion, as well as purchase more consumer items (which will increase the revenue stream if a Fair tax is implemented. Why or why not? Richard Raines is a long-time resident of Lowndes County and is employed with Daiichi Sankyo, Inc. as a Senior Cardiovascular Specialist.