

THE POWER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT



INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1: Grab your phone.

Step 2: Open your browser and go to kahoot.it

Step 3: In a minute, we're going to give you a code to join the game. Enter the 6-digit code in the field where it says "Game PIN." Or you can use your phone to scan the QR code you see on the screen.

Step 4: Enter a nickname and click "Ok, go!"



TOPICS WE WILL COVER

- **REVENUE: BUDGETARY & FISCAL POLICIES**
- **SERVICES: BUDGETARY & FISCAL POLICIES**
- **LIMITS TO THE POWER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**
- **FEDERALISM**



LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS THE CONSTITUENTS' FORUM FOR CIVIC PARTICIPATION

**“FREEDOM OF SPEECH”
BY NORMAN ROCKWELL
AND THE UPDATED
VERSION**



US, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

OVERLAPPING

RESPONSIBILITIES, POWERS,
AND JURISDICTIONS



SEPARATE

RESPONSIBILITIES, POWERS,
AND JURISDICTIONS

GOVERNMENT WHO TAKES CARE OF WHAT?

Your food is safe. Your state has roads and schools. Your community has parks and police. Government makes these things happen... and more.

KIDS DISCOVER

FEDERAL

- Safe travels!** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) ensures that flying is safe.
- How much?** The U.S. mint manufactures and distributes the coins we use. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing prints our paper money.
- Ensuring national security.** The Department of Defense provides the military forces needed to prevent war and keep our country safe.
- Protecting plants and animals.** U.S. Fish and Wildlife focuses on protecting endangered species.
- To your health!** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves all medicines and sets food safety standards.
- Learning more on your behalf.** The National Institute of Health (NIH) supports research into the causes and cure of diseases.

STATE

- Behind the wheel.** Every state has a Department of Motor Vehicles. When you're old enough to get a driver's license, that's where you'll go.
- Go fish!** But first you'll need a state-issued fishing license. The same goes for hunting.
- Tests to pass.** Lawyers and other professionals must pass a state licensing exam in the state where they plan to work.
- Ratify!** Any amendment to our Constitution must be approved, or ratified, by 38 states.
- Getting well.** A state controls all the hospitals within its borders and exerts direct control over specific facilities.
- Electing our President.** Every state chooses electors for the Electoral College. Electors cast votes for whichever candidate gets the majority of votes in the state.

FEDERAL AND STATE

- How green it is!** National and state governments create and maintain about 300 million acres of parks and forests.
- Correctional facilities** – prisons – house people who have been convicted of a crime.

FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL

- Road trip!** About 4 million miles of roads criss-cross the U.S.
- Safe and sound.** Community police, state troopers, the National Guard, and the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) work to fight crime.

FEDERAL AND LOCAL



- Vote!** The Constitution establishes how national elections are held. Local governments, with State oversight, arrange for polling places where people cast their vote.

STATE AND LOCAL

- Your teachers, your schools.** Local communities hire teachers, build schools, and provide transportation to and from school. What gets taught is the state's responsibility.

LOCAL

- 911** Quick, call 9-1-1! Your community's first responders – firefighters, police, and EMTs (Emergency Medical Technicians) – are there in minutes.
- Electricity, natural gas, and water** are necessities to be managed and distributed. Local communities are in charge.
- Read, play, enjoy.** If you like libraries, sports fields, parks, and other recreation facilities in your community, say thank-you to your local government.
- P-U!** That's what you might say without the garbage collection provided by your community's sanitation department.
- Bumpety-bump.** Without your local government to repair the roads and fix potholes, you may end up with a rough ride.



**US V.
LOCAL**

**WE
HAVE
INFO!**

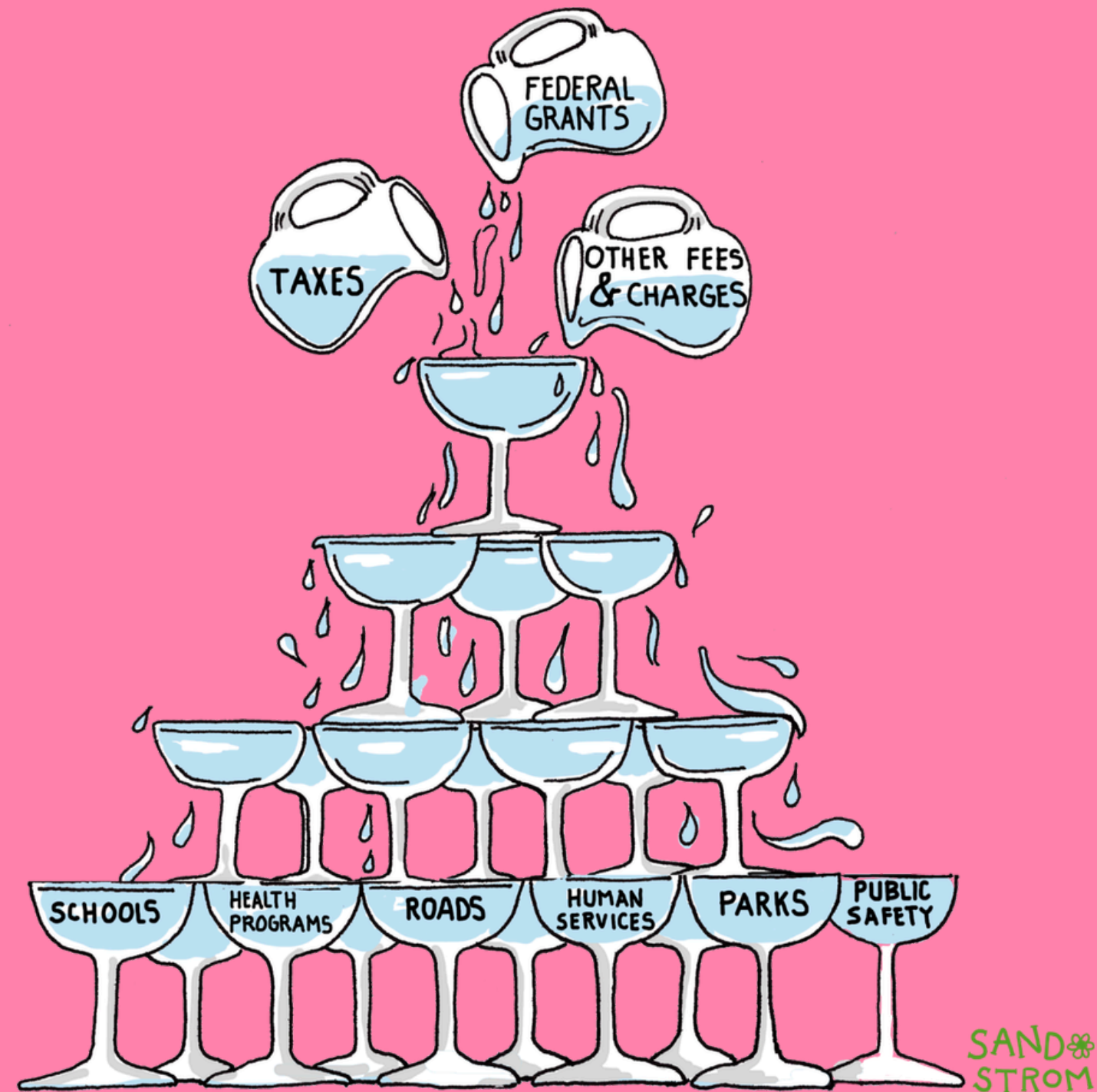


**EXAMPLES OF
LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
SERVICES**



REVENUE: FISCAL POLICY

HOW LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS
PAY FOR
SERVICES



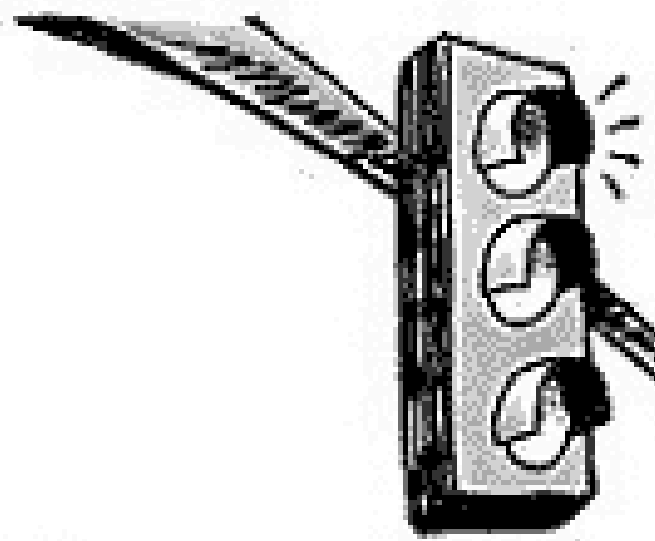
AUTHORITY TO RAISE REVENUE

- County/local governments are **dependent on states** for the authority to raise revenue
- Most states permit county governments **some amount of flexibility** over the ability to raise revenue

© 2006
FRANK
SAN ANTONIO
EXPRESS-
NEWS



I SEE THE CITY IS
INSTITUTING SOME
NEW USER FEES TO
GENERATE MORE
INCOME....



SOMETIMES
STATES LIMIT
THEIR
FINANCIAL
SUPPORT FOR
LOCAL GOVTS



#1 REVENUE SOURCE IS TAXES

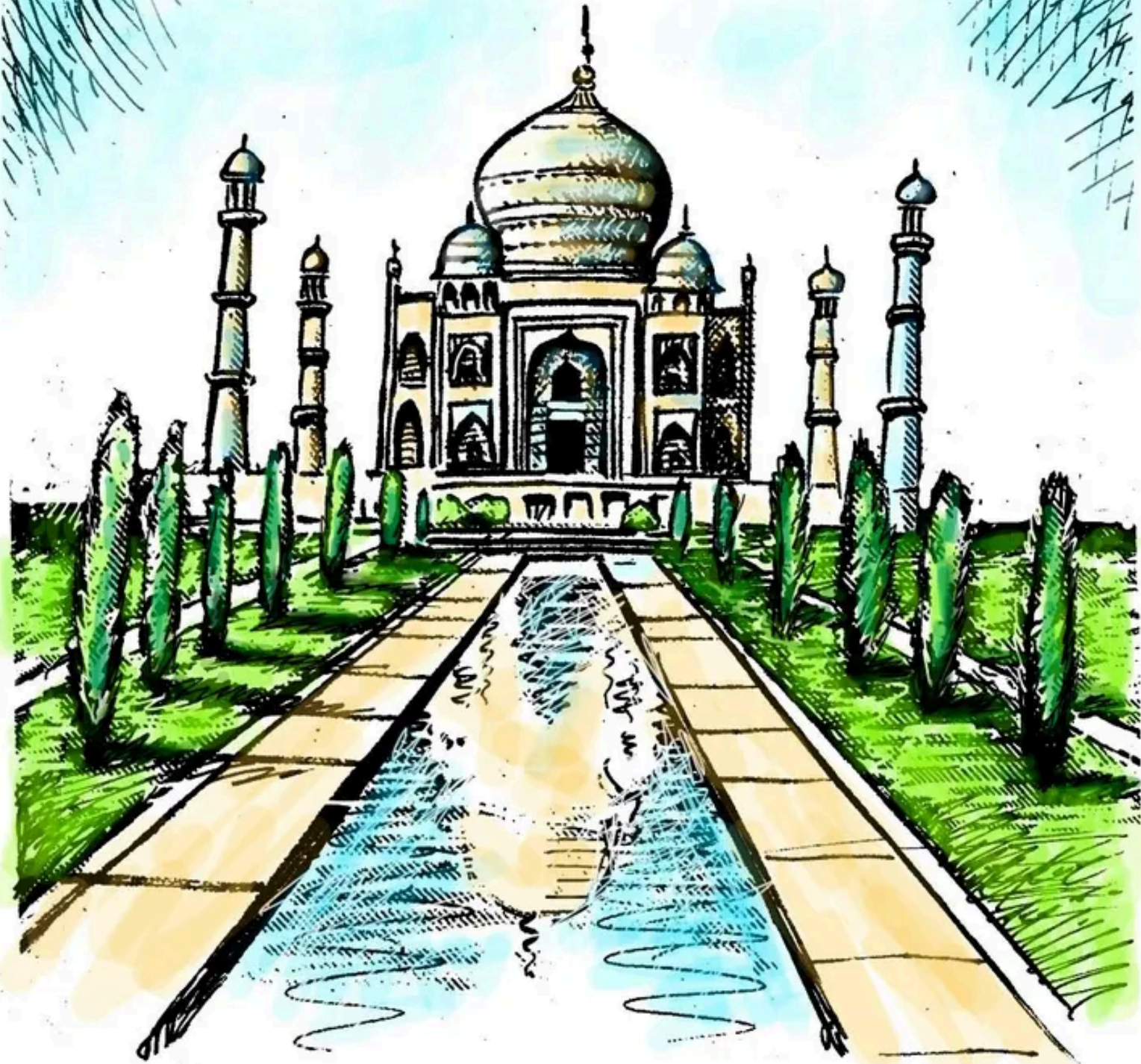
- **PROPERTY TAXES** ARE THE **TOP** SOURCE OF TAX REVENUE FOR MOST COUNTY / LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
- THIS TAX IS BASED ON THE **ASSESSED VALUE** OF THE PROPERTY



YOUR HOME...



**YOUR HOME ACCORDING
TO TAX ASSESSORS...**



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

#2 REVENUE SOURCE IS INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE

LESS THAN **ONE THIRD** (29 PERCENT) OF REVENUE COMES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:

- **FEDERAL** GOVERNMENT (4 PERCENT)
- **STATE** GOVERNMENT (24 PERCENT)
- **VARIES** BY STATE AND COUNTY / LOCAL GOVERNMENT

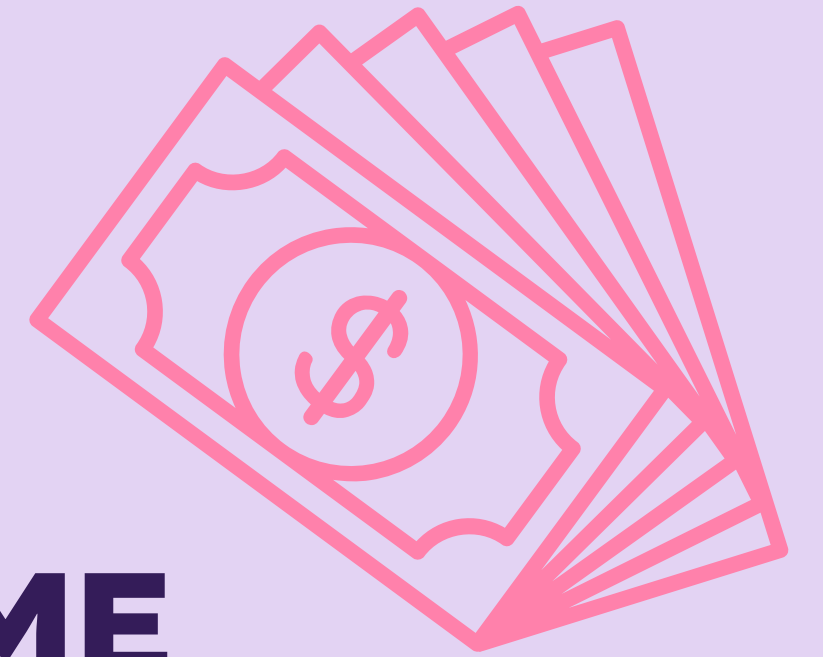


#3 REVENUE SOURCE IS FEES

- **CHARGES AND FEES**

- **THESE TYPES OF CHARGES COME DIRECTLY FROM A SPECIFIC GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND SUPPORT THAT SERVICE DIRECTLY**

- **EXAMPLES: COURT, HIGHWAY, LIBRARY...**



25¢
IN
COINS



#4 REVENUE SOURCE IS LOCAL SALES TAX

MICHIGAN:
6% STATE SALES TAX

| MI | |
|------------|--------------|
| CAN OPENER | 10.00 |
| SALES TAX | .60 |
| TOTAL | <u>10.60</u> |

TENNESSEE:
7% STATE AND
UP TO 2.75%
LOCAL SALES TAX

| TN | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| CAN OPENER | 10.00 |
| TN SALES TAX | 0.70 |
| LOCAL SALES TAX | 0.27 |
| TOTAL | <u>10.97</u> |

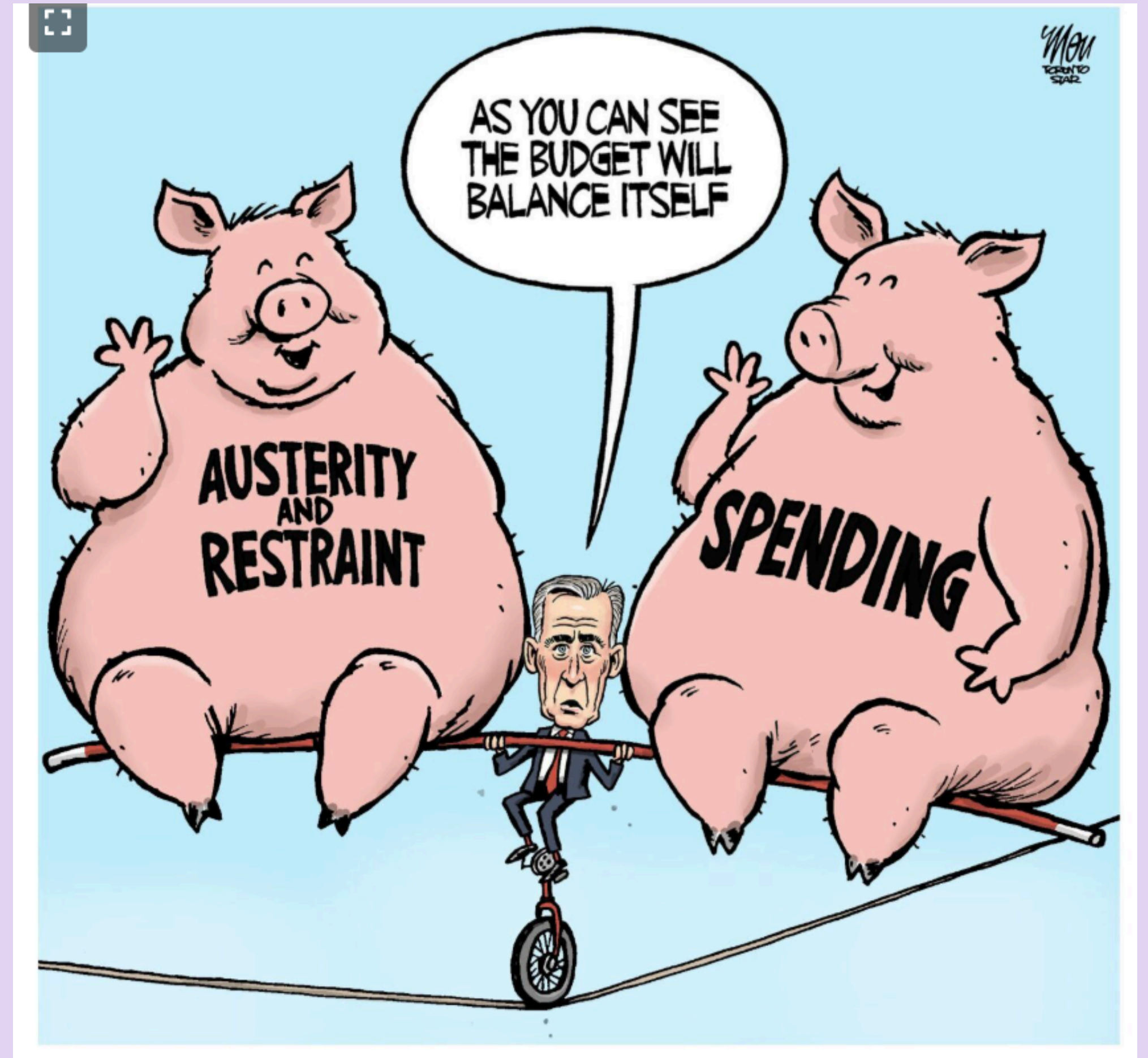


TAXPAYER
REACTION
**COULD
INCLUDE**
HYSTERICAL
LAUGHTER TO
MASK THE
BURDENED
FRUSTRATION



SERVICES

WHAT TYPES
OF SERVICES
ARE FUNDED
IN A LEGALLY
REQUIRED
BALANCED
BUDGET





**THE TOP FOUR SERVICE
CATEGORIES GIVEN TO
COUNTIES OR LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS TEND TO BE:**

- **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
- **JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**
- **EDUCATION**
- **TRANSPORTATION**

#1

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

COUNTIES PLAY AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN PROTECTING,
PROMOTING AND IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF
COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE NATION.



Counties employ over

533,000

hospital and health care workers.

Counties support
more than

900

hospitals that provide
inpatient medical care
and specialized care.



Counties also
own and support

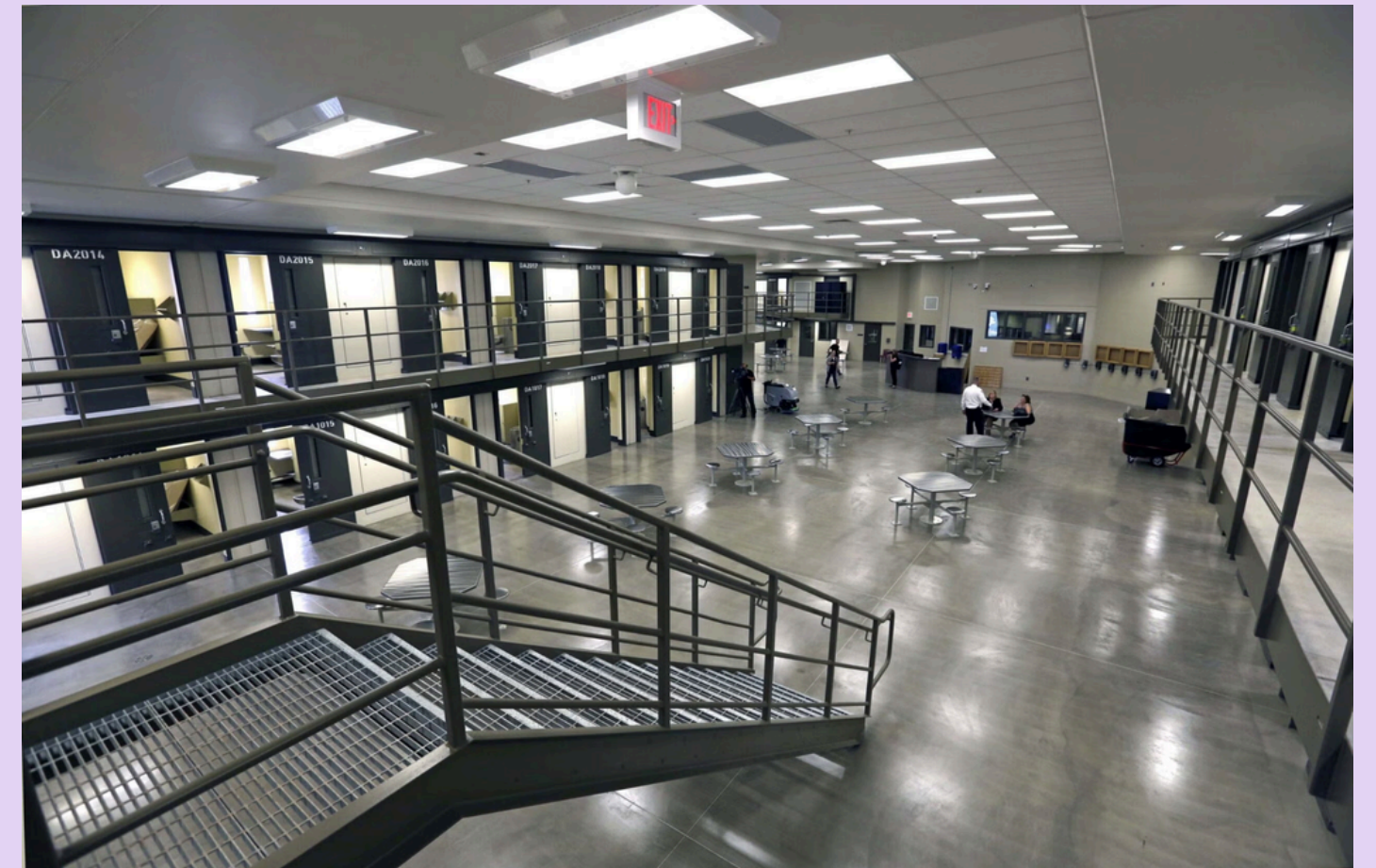
700

long-term care facilities.



#2 JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

- OPERATE 91 PERCENT OF **LOCAL JAILS**
- SERVE AS THE LOCAL ARM OF THE **STATE/COUNTY COURT SYSTEMS**, INCLUDING JUDGES, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, PUBLIC DEFENDERS, COURT CLERKS, AND JAIL ADMINISTRATORS (AND COURT FACILITIES)



JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

- PROVIDE ESSENTIAL **FIRST RESPONDER SERVICES** THROUGH SHERIFFS, POLICE DEPARTMENTS, CONSTABLES, 911 OPERATIONS, FIREFIGHTERS, EMT/EMS
- LEAD REGIONAL AND LOCAL **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** PLANNING



#3

EDUCATION SERVICES

THE COUNTY / LOCAL GOVT
ROLE IN THE K12
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE
STATE VARIES, AS MOST
**STATES GIVE AUTHORITY TO
INDEPENDENTLY ELECTED
OR APPOINTED SCHOOL
BOARDS**

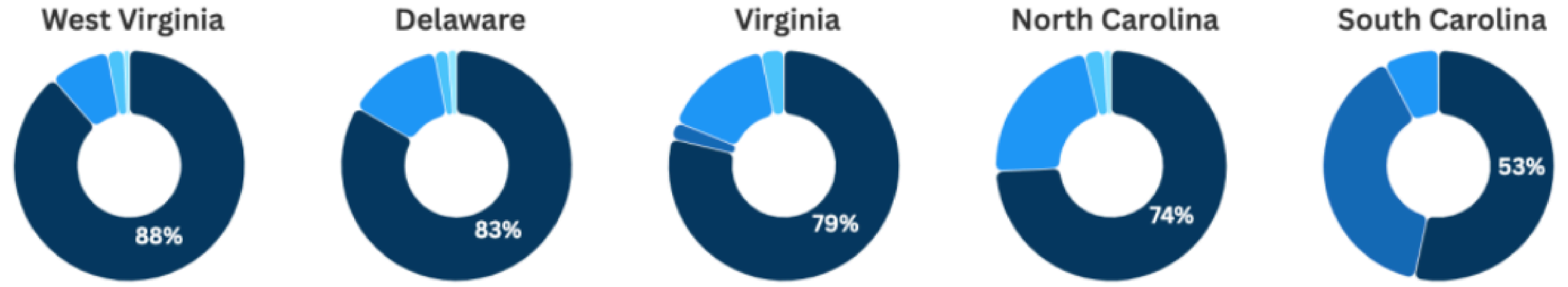


#4 TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- OWN AND MAINTAIN MORE THAN 45 PERCENT OF **PUBLIC ROAD** MILES AND 38 PERCENT OF **BRIDGES** (VARIES BY STATE)
- SUPPORT 40 PERCENT OF **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION** SYSTEMS
- OWN OR INVOLVED IN OPERATIONS OF MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF **PUBLIC AIRPORTS**

Only five U.S. states, including North Carolina, own more than half of the roads within their borders. Others take a more hands-off approach to maintenance.

■ State ■ County ■ Municipal ■ Federal ■ Other



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ARE MAJOR OWNERS OF:

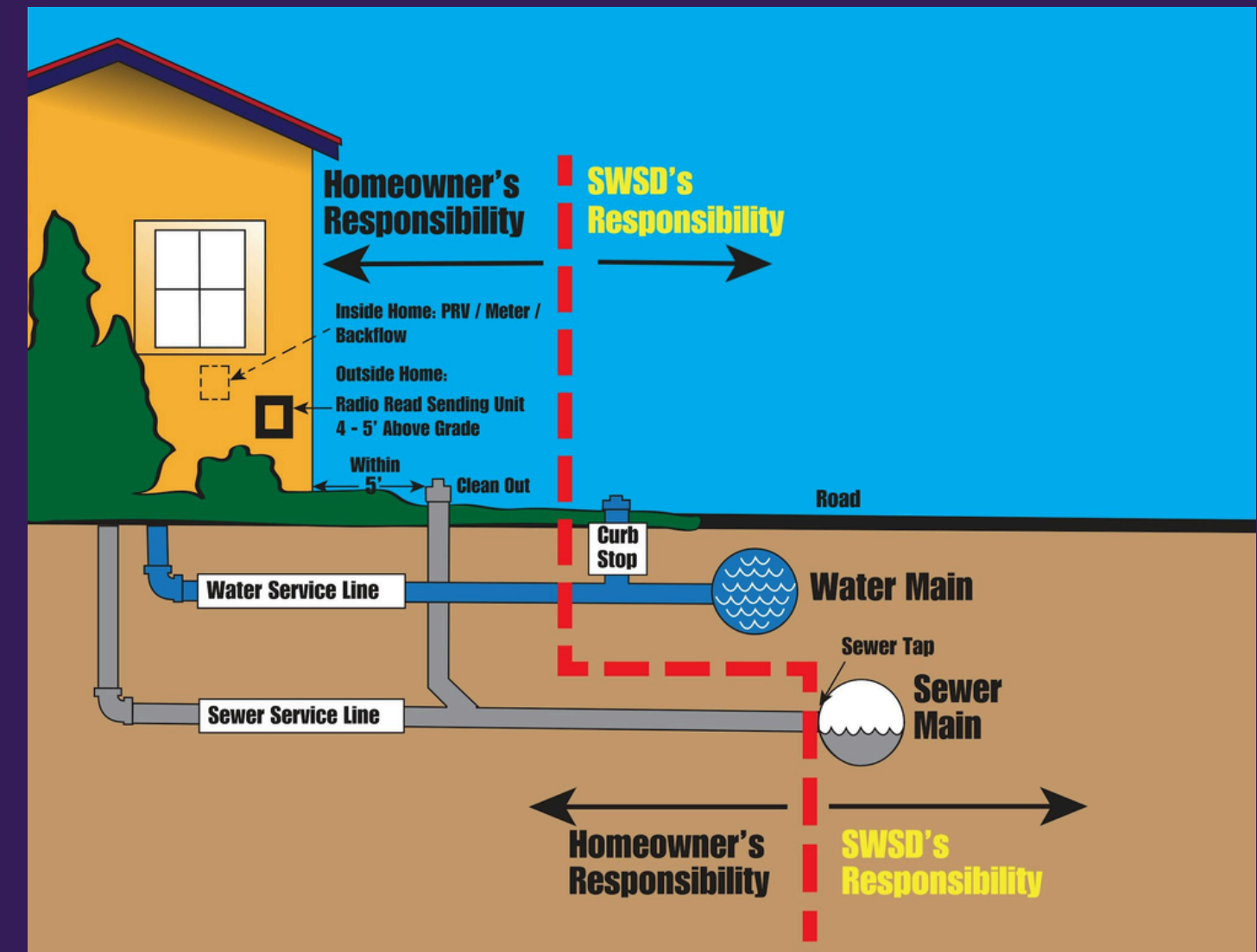
- **PUBLIC FACILITIES**, SUCH AS **COURTHOUSES**, COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS, **JAILS** AND DETENTION CENTERS
- DAMS AND RESERVOIRS
- SPORTS STADIUMS
- **WATER PURIFICATION** SYSTEMS, **SEWAGE** TREATMENT FACILITIES, PORTS, AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND **RECYCLING CENTERS**



WATER AND SEWER



HIGHLY
VALUED BUT
HIDDEN
SERVICE



#5 PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- **RECORD KEEPING** INCLUDING BIRTH AND DEATH CERTIFICATES, COURT RECORDS, ELECTION RECORDS, LAND RECORDS, MARRIAGE LICENSES, REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS AND TAX ASSESSMENTS
- **TAX ASSESSMENTS AND COLLECTIONS**, INCLUDING FOR OTHER PUBLIC ENTITIES SUCH AS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, MUNICIPALITIES AND SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS



OWNERSHIP?

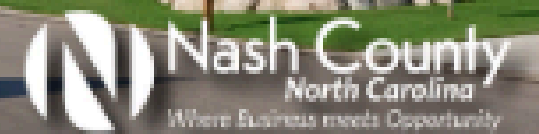


REAL TIME
Property Fraud
Protection

**PROTECT YOURSELF FROM
PROPERTY & MORTGAGE FRAUD**

Sign Up today for this **FREE** service from
the Nash County Register of Deeds

**CLICK
HERE!**



PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- **ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION** -
FUNDING AND MANAGEMENT OF OVER
100,000 POLLING PLACES
- IN ACCORDANCE WITH DIRECTIVES
FROM THE **STATE LEGISLATURE** AND
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

ELECTIONS

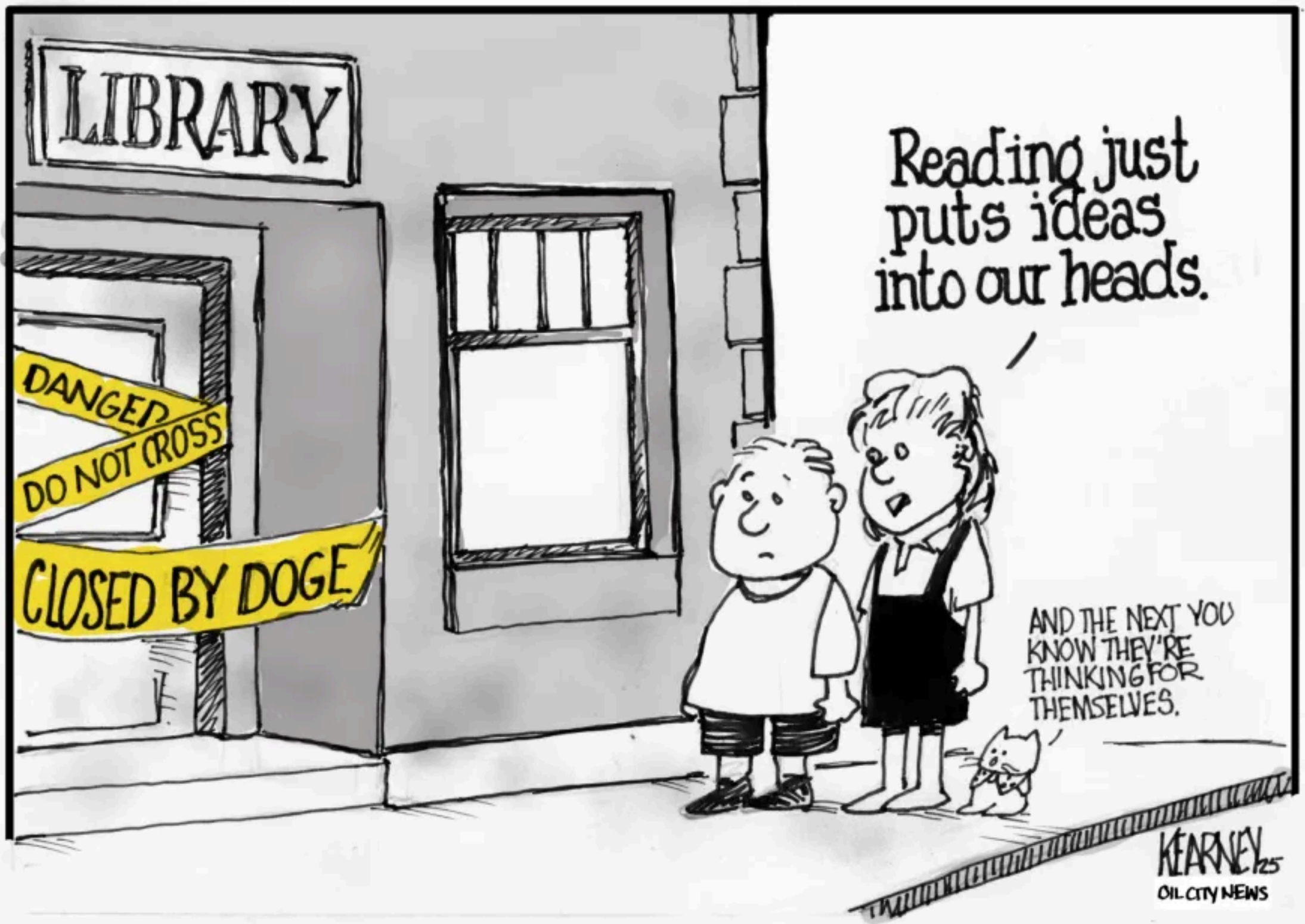
STATES ARE
CONSTITUTIONALLY
RESPONSIBLE FOR
ELECTIONS

LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS RUN
THE ELECTIONS,
OVERSEEN BY STATE
GOVERNMENT



COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES:

- PARKS AND RECREATION
- PUBLIC LIBRARIES
- ARTS AND CULTURE PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES
- COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES
- HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES
- COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



LIBRARY

DANGER
DO NOT CROSS

CLOSED BY DOGE

Reading just
puts ideas
into our heads.

AND THE NEXT YOU
KNOW THEY'RE
THINKING FOR
THEMSELVES.

KEARNEY 125
OIL CITY NEWS

**MOST COUNTY GOVERNMENTS
PROVIDE SERVICES TO RESIDENTS IN
BOTH UNINCORPORATED AND
INCORPORATED AREAS OF THE
COUNTY**



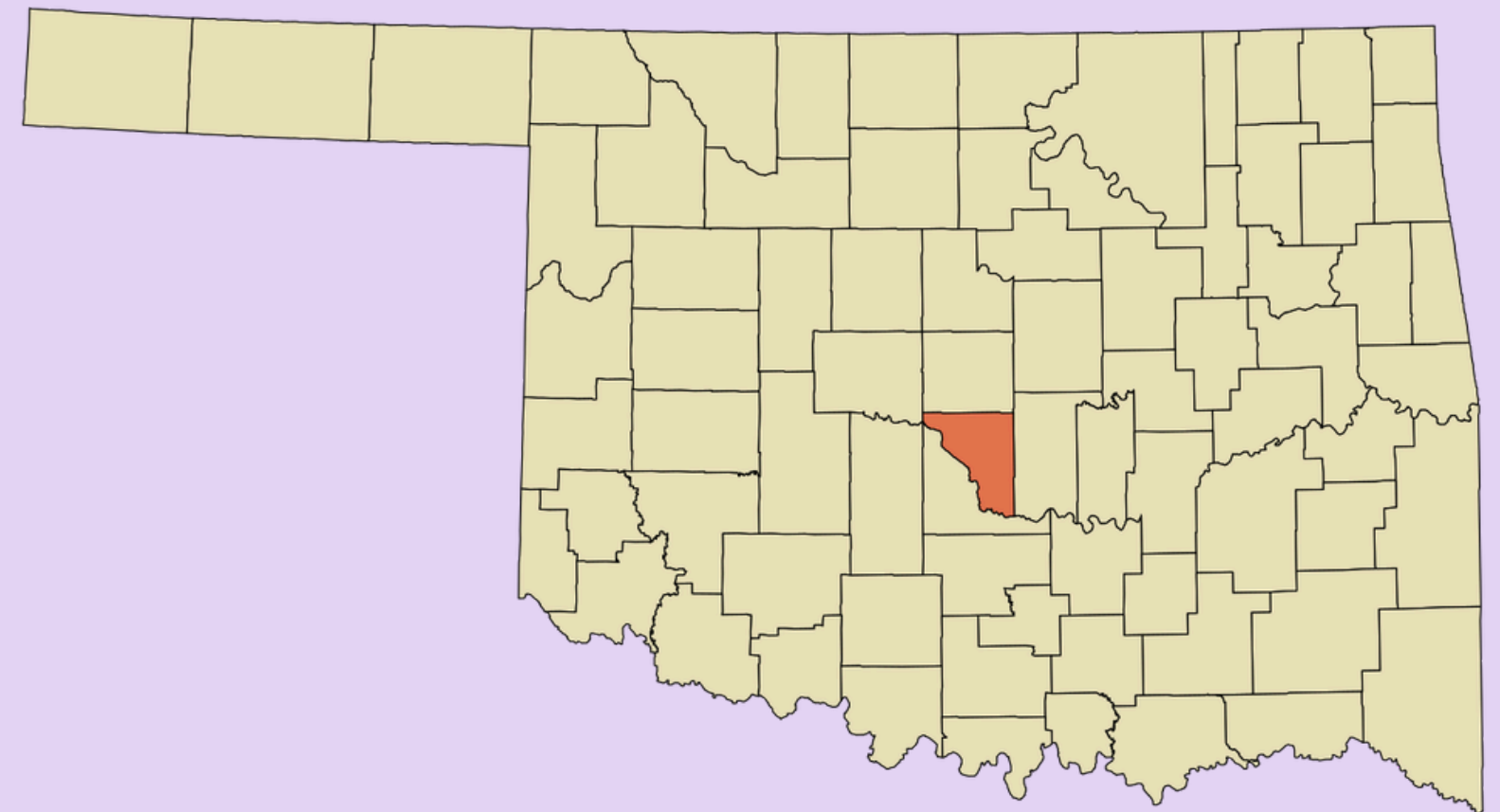
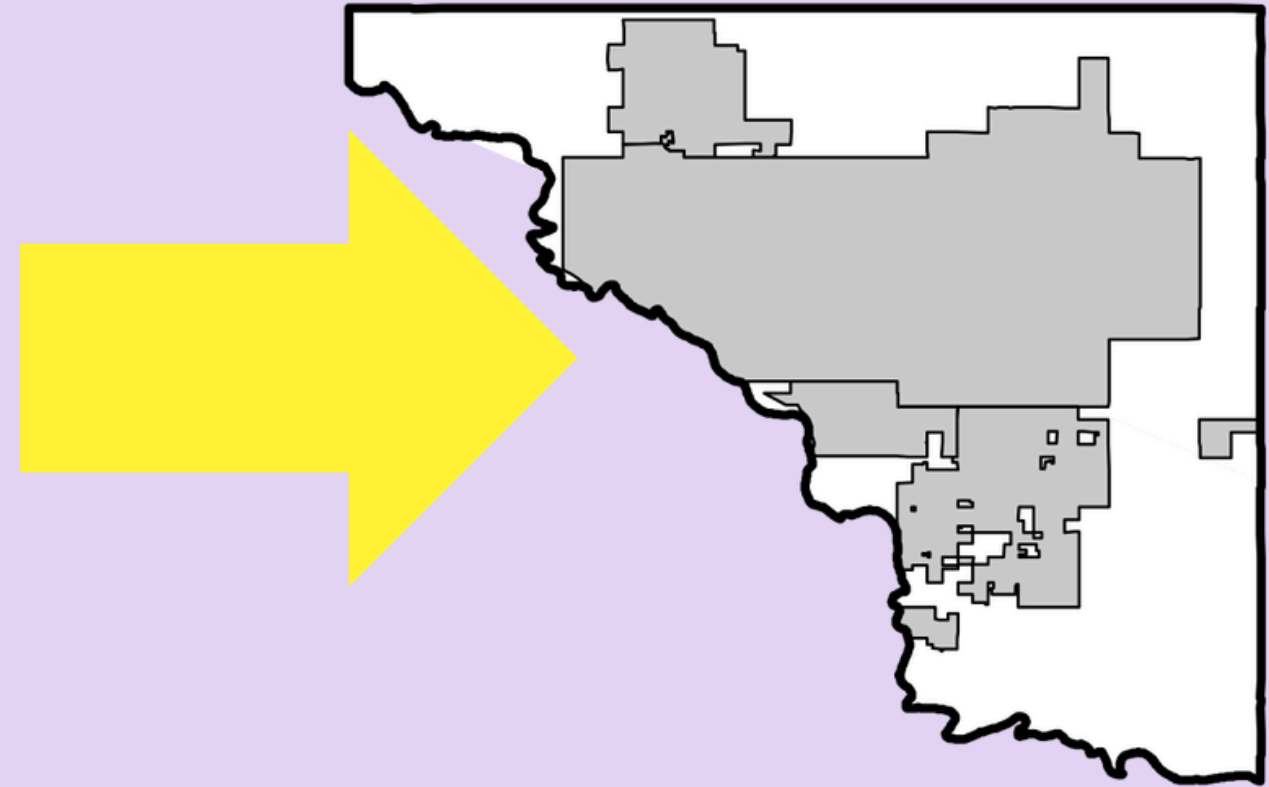
- **INCORPORATED AREAS OF A COUNTY ARE GOVERNED BY MUNICIPALITIES WITH THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT**
- **RESIDENTS IN INCORPORATED AREAS OF A COUNTY RECEIVE MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY SERVICES**

- **UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF A COUNTY DO NOT HAVE A MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND ARE NOT ORGANIZED TO PROVIDE ANY MUNICIPAL SERVICES TO RESIDENTS IN THESE AREAS**

CLEVELAND CO, OKLAHOMA

**GRAY AREAS
ARE INCORPORATED,
RECEIVE MORE
SERVICES**

**WHITE AREAS
ARE
UNINCORPORATED,
FEWER SERVICES**



MUNICIPALITIES

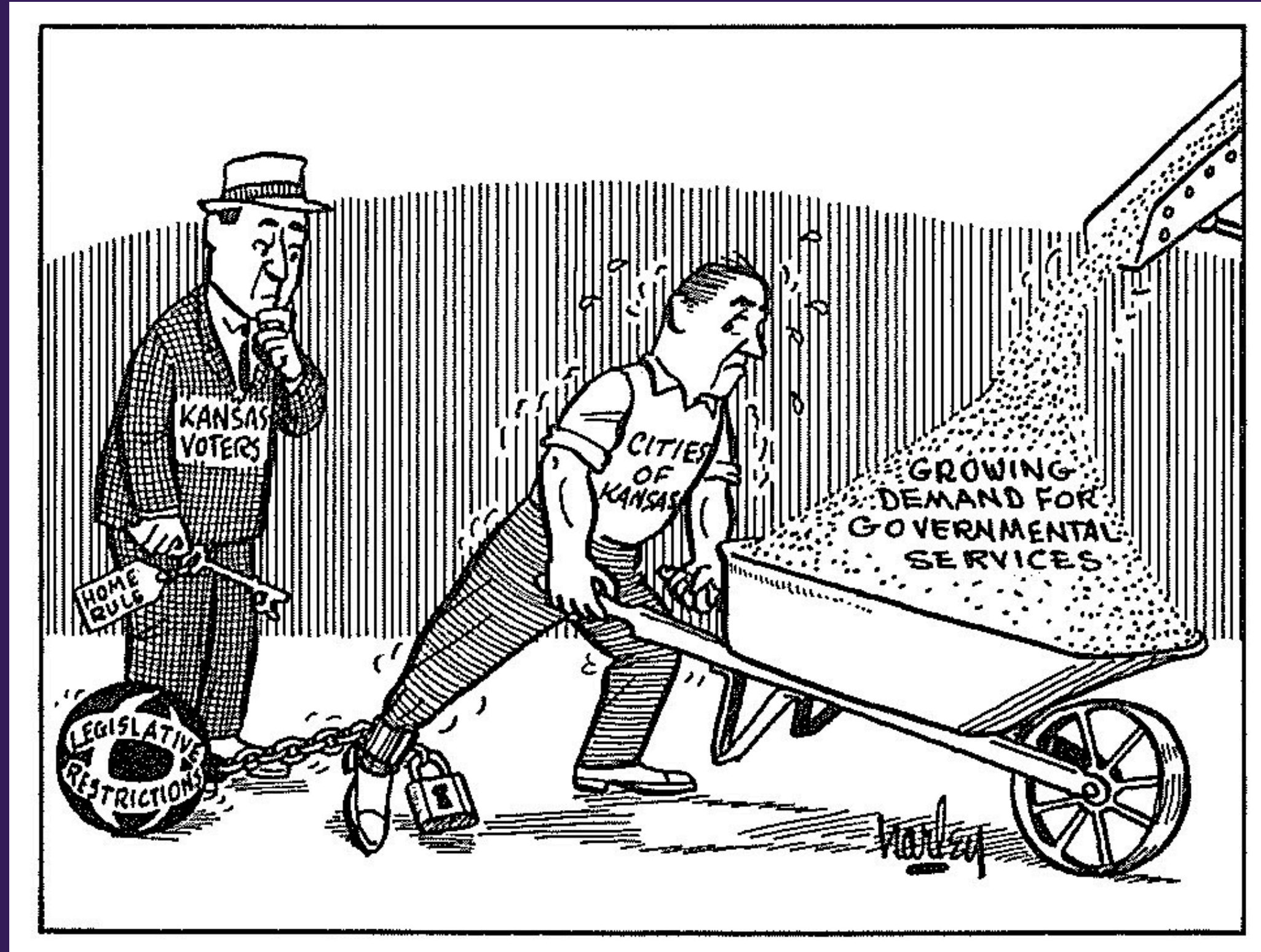
**GENERALLY TAKE RESPONSIBILITY
FOR:**

- Parks and recreation services
- Police and fire departments
- Housing services
- Emergency medical services

MUNICIPALITIES

- Municipal courts
- Transportation services (including **public transportation**)
- **Public works** (streets, sewers, snow removal, signage, and so forth)

**REMEMBER:
THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
BUDGET LEGALLY
MUST BE
BALANCED**





LIMITS TO POWER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

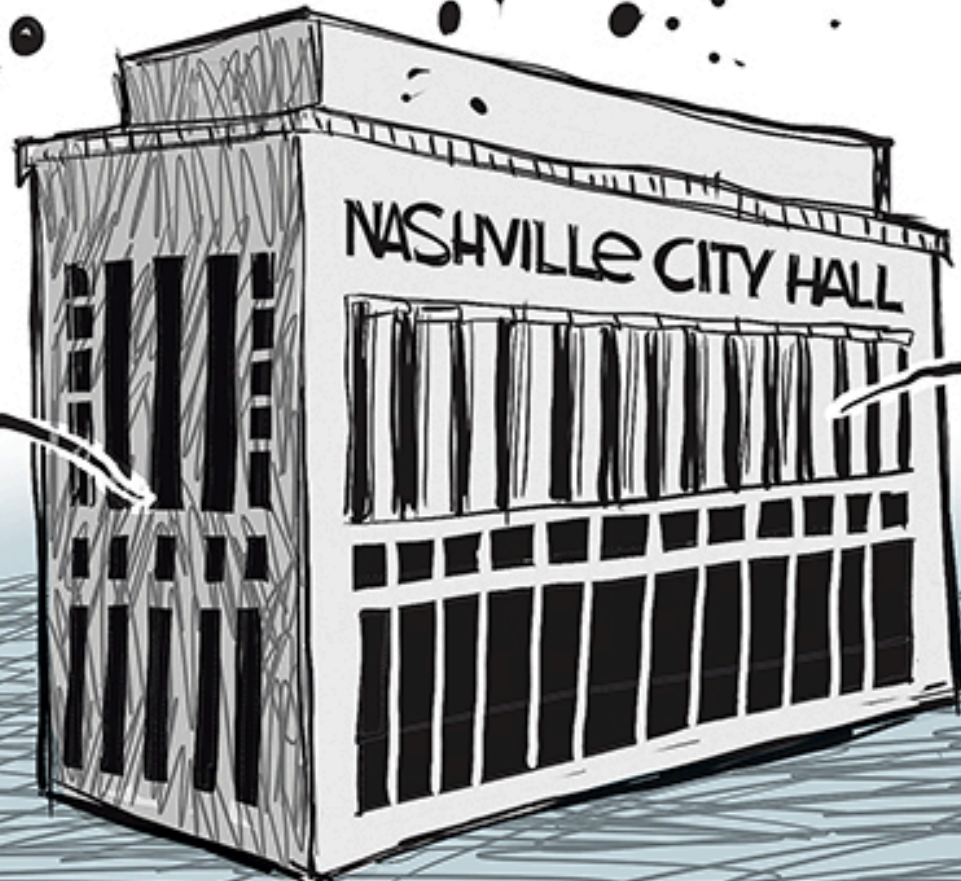
- **INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE** IS REVOKED
- **STATE GOVERNMENTS RETURN** THE POWER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO THE STATE
- **STATE GOVTS REVOKE** THE MUNICIPAL CHARTER
- **VOTERS** ELECT STATE AND/OR LOCAL OFFICIALS WHO REDUCE POWER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
- REVENUE **COLLECTION DECREASES**

JOHN COLE
TENNESSEELOOKOUT.COM
CARLOCCARTOONS.COM

LEGISLATURE

..METRO COUNCIL REDUCTION BILL..

..LOOK...
IT'S THE
PARTY OF
LOCAL
CONTROL
AND
SMALL
GOVERNMENT..?



..AND
WHEN THEY
CAN'T CONTROL
US LOCALS,
..THEY MAKE
US SMALLER...

LOUISIANA V CALLAIS (2026)

THE SUPREME COURT'S REINTERPRETATION OF SECTION 2 OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT RENDERS IT NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO ENFORCE.

THE COURT DID NOT STRIKE DOWN SECTION 2 OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT AS UNCONSTITUTIONAL, BUT IT SUBSTANTIALLY REINTERPRETED SECTION 2(B)

VOTING RIGHTS ACT 1965

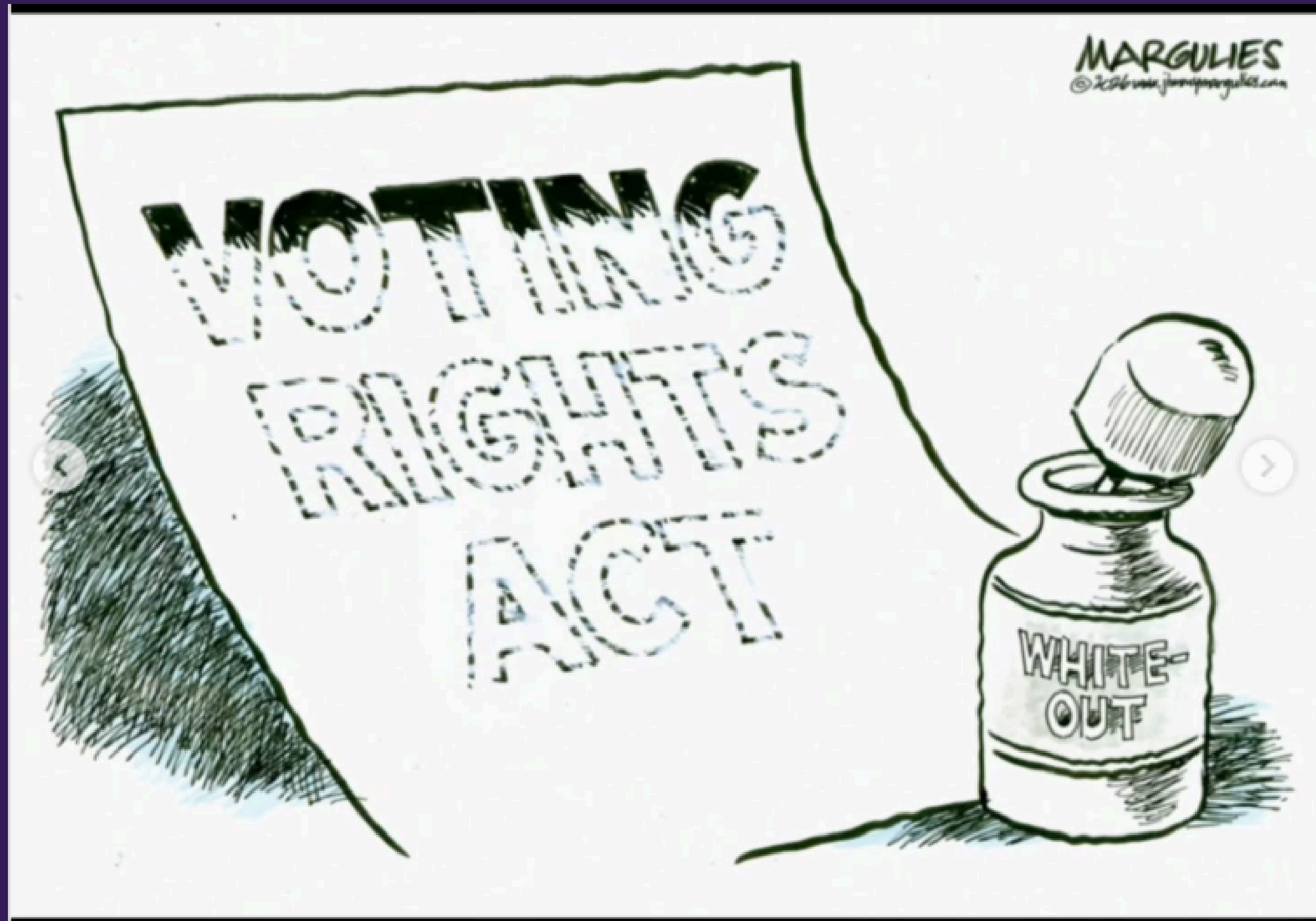
SECTION 2(B) STATES:

A VIOLATION OCCURS WHEN POLITICAL PROCESSES ARE “NOT EQUALLY OPEN TO PARTICIPATION BY ‘MEMBERS OF A RACIAL GROUP’ IN THAT [THEY] HAVE LESS OPPORTUNITY THAN OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ELECTORATE TO . . . ELECT REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR CHOICE.”



**UNDER THE COURT'S NEW
INTERPRETATION OF SECTION 2(B):
A HISTORICALLY MARGINALIZED VOTER IS
NOT ENTITLED TO CAST A BALLOT IN A
DISTRICT CREATED TO ALLOW THEM THE
BEST OPPORTUNITY TO SELECT
REPRESENTATION REFLECTIVE OF THEIR
COMMUNITIES AND INTERESTS**

LOUISIANA V CALLAIS





LOUISIANA V CALLAIS (2026)

THE NEW FRAMEWORK CREATED BY THE CALLAIS DECISION GIVES **EXTREME DEFERENCE TO A STATE'S PARTISAN JUSTIFICATIONS** AND GOALS IN DEFENDING ITS REDISTRICTING PLANS, APPEARING TO WEIGH THOSE CONSIDERATIONS OVER THE EFFECTS OF PRESENT-DAY OR HISTORICAL RACIAL DISCRIMINATION — THE ORIGINAL ANIMATING FORCE OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

LOUISIANA V CALLAIS (2026)

THE COURT EXPLAINS THAT CONGRESS' AUTHORITY IS LIMITED TO ENFORCING THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT'S PROHIBITION ON **INTENTIONAL RACIAL DISCRIMINATION**, AND THAT THIS PROHIBITION IMPOSES LIABILITY ONLY WHEN THE STATE **INTENTIONALLY** DREW ITS DISTRICTS TO **AFFORD MINORITY VOTERS LESS OPPORTUNITY** BECAUSE OF THEIR RACE (NOT THEIR POLITICAL PARTY)

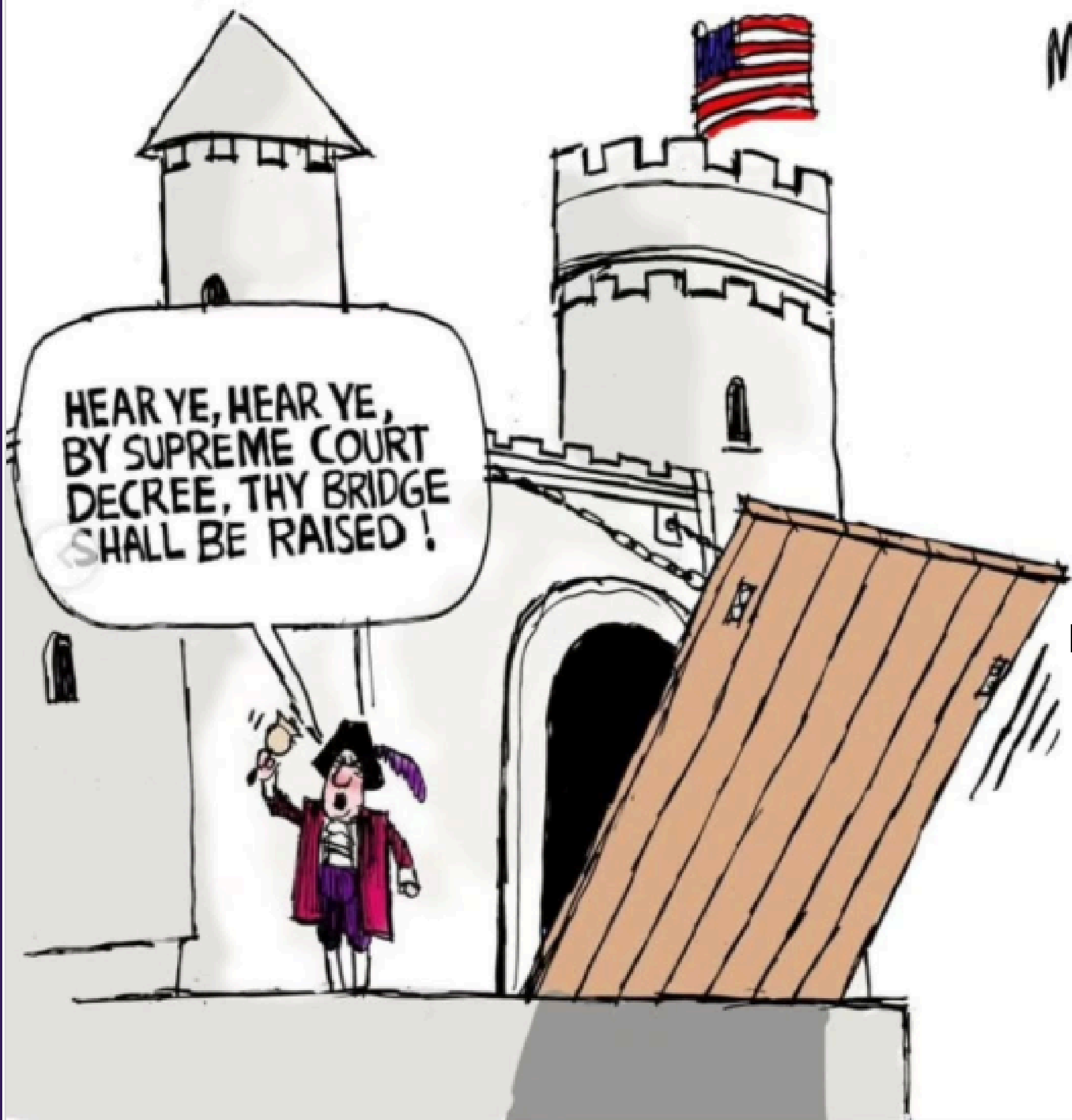
LOUISIANA V CALLAIS (2026)

PARTISAN JUSTIFICATIONS WILL LIKELY BE GIVEN THE **MOST WEIGHT** IN REVIEWING GERRYMANDERED MAPS, REGARDLESS OF RACIAL IMPACT

LOUISIANA V CALLAIS (2026)

THE RULING EFFECTIVELY MAKES IT LEGAL FOR STATES TO DRAW MAPS THAT **ELIMINATE MAJORITY-MINORITY DISTRICTS** AND **VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO CHALLENGE THOSE MAPS** IN FEDERAL COURT FOR RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

MIKE LUCKOVICH ATTC
5-1-26 © ATC.COM



BLACK VOTERS

BLACK POLITICIANS



LOUISIANA V CALLAIS (2026)

...IT LEAVES **CITY COUNCILS, SCHOOL BOARDS,** STATE LEGISLATURES, AND COURTS **WITHOUT REPRESENTATION** THAT ACCURATELY REFLECTS THEIR COMMUNITIES. **FUNDING FOR CITY SERVICES AND SCHOOLS WILL BE SEVERELY IMPACTED,** AND PEOPLE WILL FEEL VERY TANGIBLE EFFECTS IN THEIR EVERYDAY LIVES

LOUISIANA V CALLAIS (2026)

IMPEDES THE ABILITY OF LOCAL AFRICAN AMERICAN, ASIAN AND/OR HISPANIC/LATINO CANDIDATES AND OFFICE HOLDERS FROM RUNNING FOR AND WINNING OFFICE, WHICH WILL REDUCE THE VOICES OF PEOPLE OF COLOR IN FEDERAL/US OFFICES, AS WELL AS STATE AND LOCAL OFFICES/GOVERNMENT

JANAI NELSON



**LET'S TALK
FEDERALISM**

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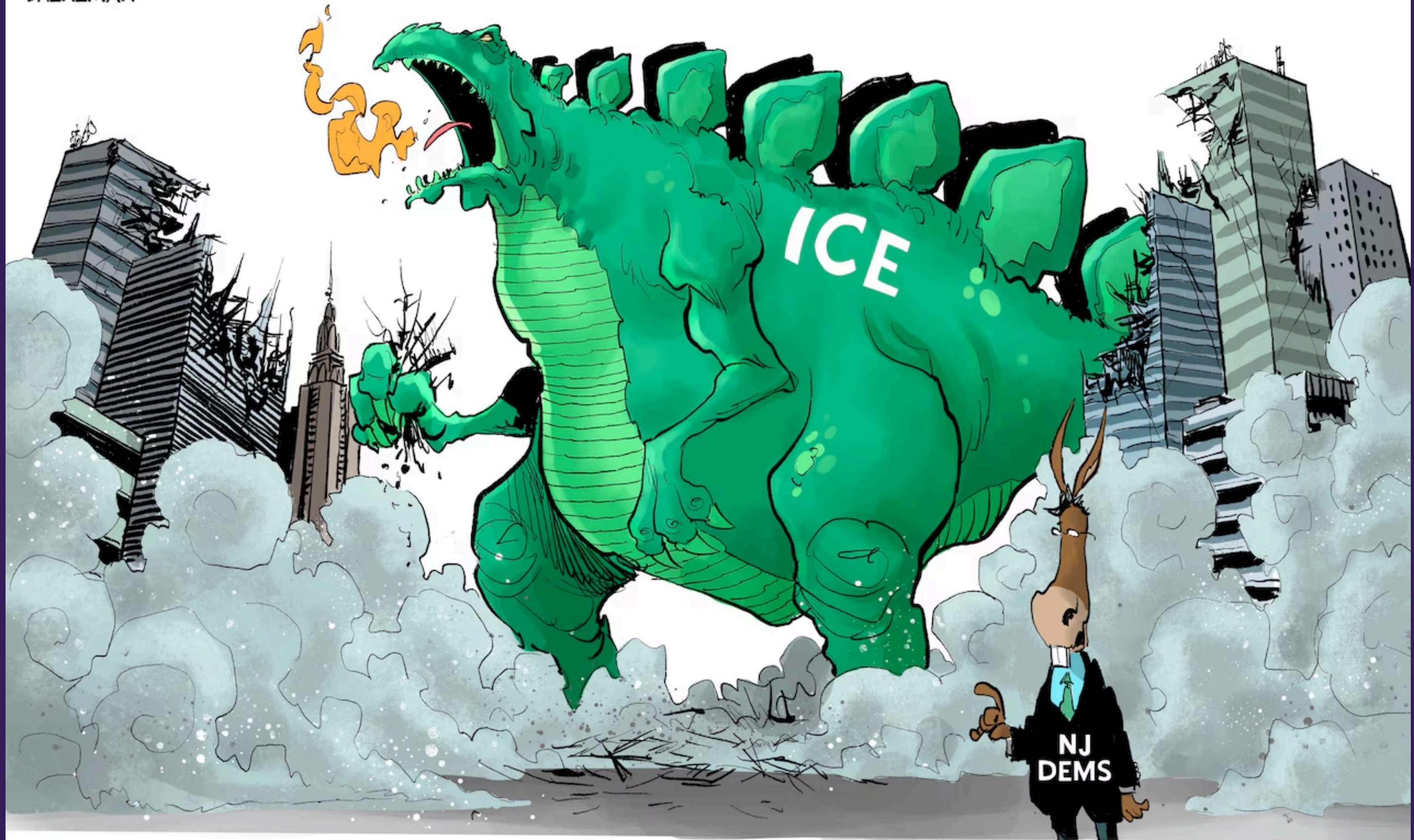
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- Bumpety-bump.** Without your local government to repair the roads and fix potholes, you may end up with a rough ride.





"DON'T WORRY, WE'RE CURRENTLY DEBATING SOME FAIRLY STRICT LEASH LAWS."

SHERIFF (LOCAL) & ICE (FEDERAL / US)

- SHERIFFS USUALLY **RUN THE COUNTY JAIL**, WHICH GIVES IMMIGRATION CUSTOMS AND ENFORCEMENT (ICE) ACCESS TO THE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE DETAINED THERE.
- SHERIFFS HAVE **WIDE DISCRETION IN HOW MUCH THEY COOPERATE WITH ICE**, WHETHER THEY JOIN IMMIGRATION RAIDS, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY WHETHER THEY WORK WITH ICE TO TRANSFER PEOPLE INTO IMMIGRATION DETENTION (**10TH AMENDMENT**)

SHERIFF (LOCAL) & ICE (FEDERAL / US)

- SHERIFFS OVERSEE AND OPERATE LOCAL JAILS, INCLUDING MAINTAINING **JAIL CONDITIONS**, SUCH AS **VISITATION HOURS AND REQUIREMENTS, PHONE SERVICES, AND ACCESS BY OTHER AGENCIES**
- SHERIFFS CAN DETERMINE WHAT **PROGRAMS** MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE IN CUSTODY, WHETHER A JAIL WILL **HOLD PEOPLE ON ICE DETAINERS** WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BE RELEASED, AND **WHAT INFORMATION** ABOUT JAIL AND DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS WILL BE MADE **PUBLIC**

UNLESS THE STATE LEGISLATURE
PASSES A **287(G) AGREEMENT...**

SHERIFFS, STATE TROOPERS,
WILDLIFE AGENTS, UNIVERSITY
POLICE **ARE REQUIRED** TO ASSIST
ICE



BONUSES GIVEN FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT WHO ASSIST ICE.

HOWEVER, RESEARCH FROM NC INDICATES THERE IS NO
REDUCTION IN CRIME AND THERE IS POSSIBLE RACIAL PROFILING
FROM A 287(G).



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

ICE OPERATES THREE 287(g) MODELS:

The Jail Enforcement Model allows your officers to identify and process removable aliens who have pending or active criminal charges.

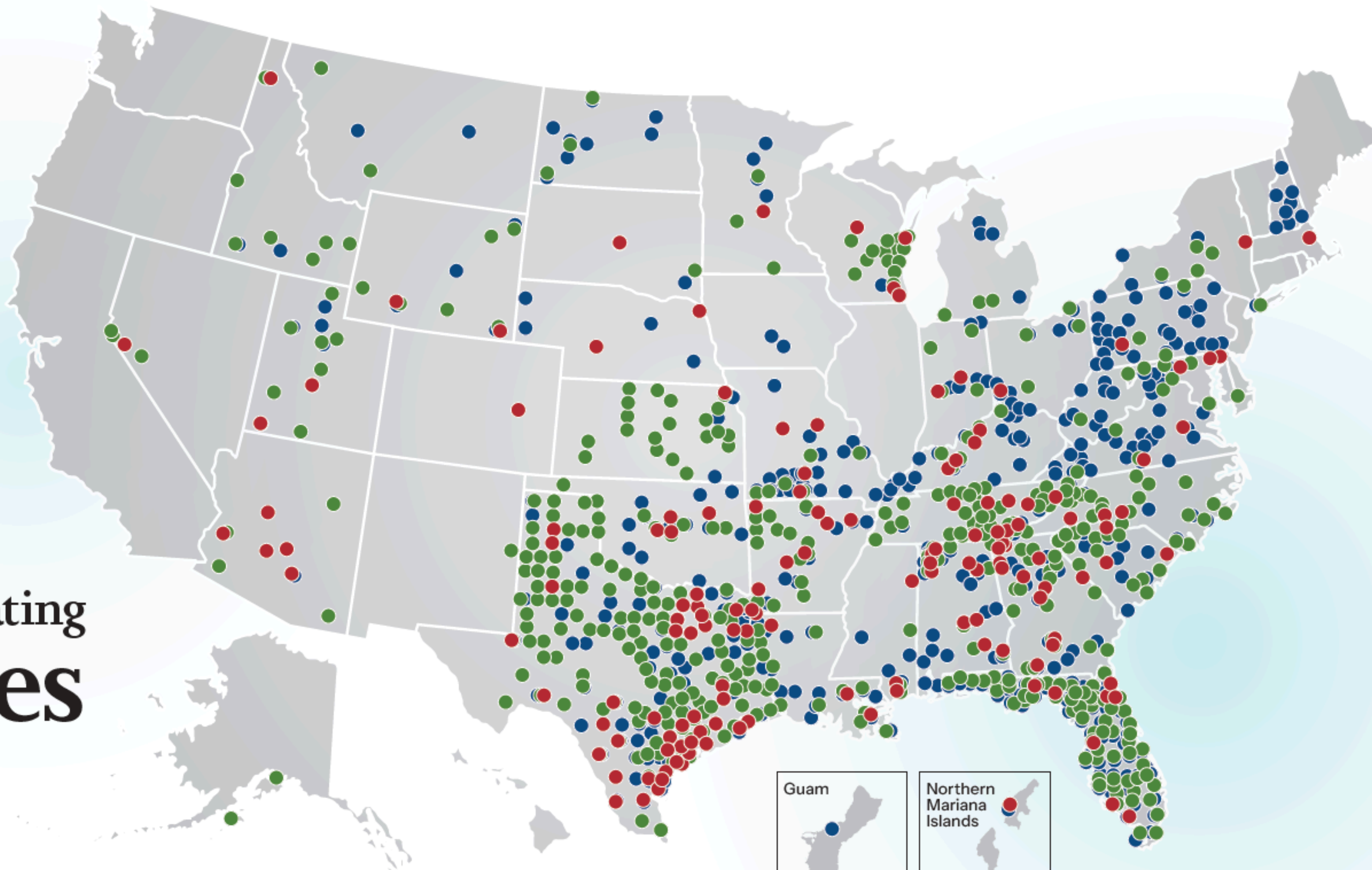
The Task Force Model allows your officers to enforce limited immigration authority while performing routine police duties or as an active participant in an ICE-led task force.

The Warrant Service Officer allows your officers to serve and execute administrative warrants on aliens in your custody.

287(g) Participating Agencies

Participating

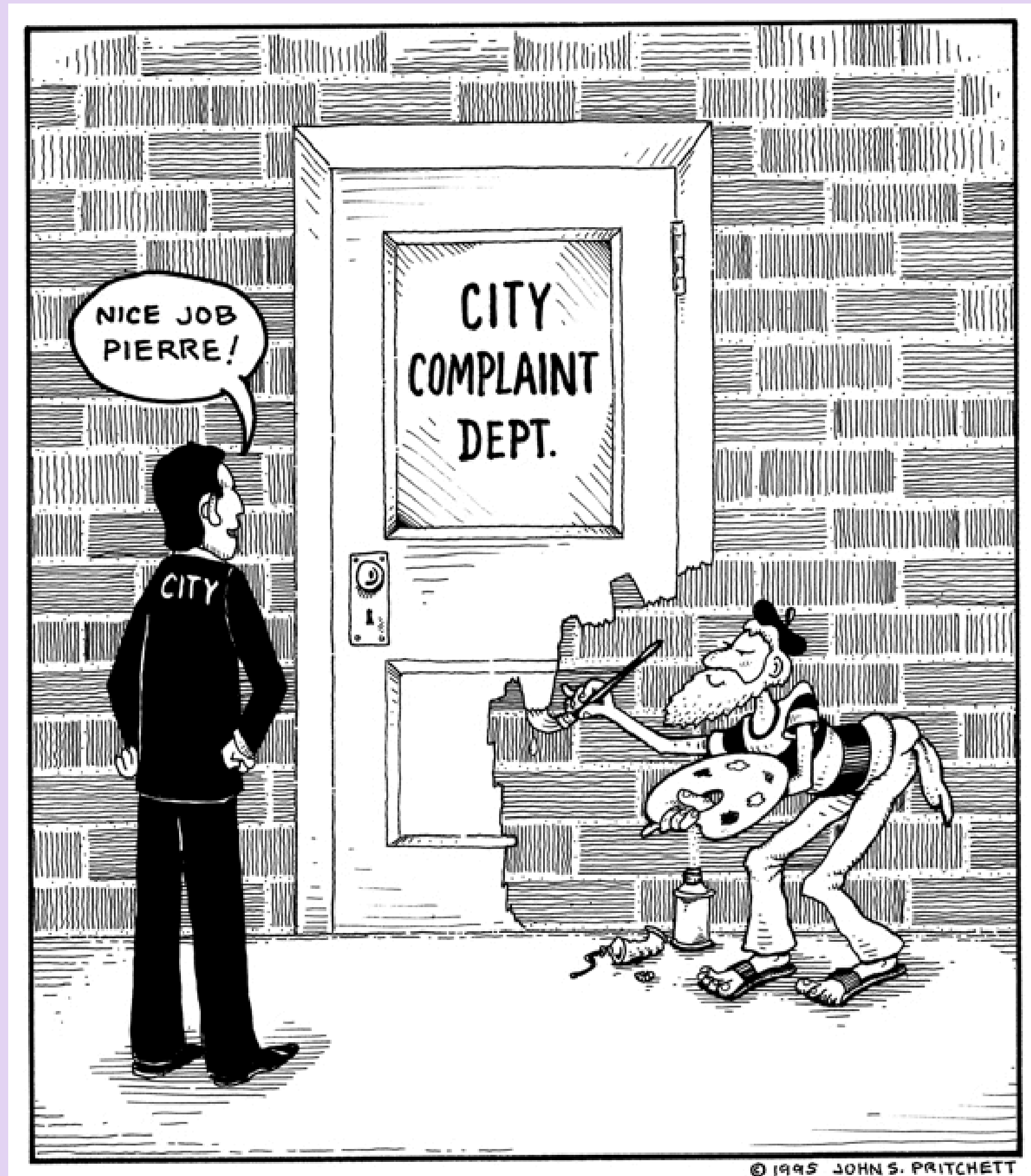
- Jail Enforcement Model
- Task Force Model
- Warrant Service Officer



AS OF: 05 FEBRUARY 2026

Let's hope **local governments** remember that they are the **closest** to the constituents and most easily changed.

Our responsibility to be involved and to **VOTE!!!**



HEY, MARGARET!
WE'VE GOT ANOTHER
ONE WHO WANTS
TO HIBERNATE
UNTIL 2028!



VEYANO
Boston Globe

If people don't vote, everything stays the same. You can protest until the sky turns yellow or the moon turns blue, and it's not going to change anything if you don't vote.



Dolores Huerta

American Labor Leader and Activist



Michelle Obama

“You’ve rekindled and **renewed** this untameable, unpredictable, and **unbreakable democracy**. And I know that you all are gonna astonish us even more in the months and years ahead. Because you all have proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that when we truly see each other, when we strive to bring out the best in ourselves and one another, oh, **there is no limit to how high we can go. ...**”





Q&A Time!

