

GUEST VIEW

Seeing our shadow over and over

With it being February, I always think about the movie in which Bill Murray starred called "Groundhog Day." You know the movie — it's the one where he was continuously reliving the past.

So it's only appropriate that I came across an article in *The Southern* titled, "Tax Bill beginning to deliver bigger paychecks to workers."



DARYL ICE

I try not to repeat myself, but since this commentary is being written around the day of Punxsutawney Phil's awakening, I'm allowed to make an exception.

According to the non-partisan Tax Policy Center, the average household in the United States would get a tax cut of \$930 a year. This sounds like a substantial sum — until you break it down. This means an additional \$17 a week. For a family of four, this comes to \$4.25 for each member. In other words, a little less than the price of a Big Mac from McDonald's.

The last time we were blessed with such a gift was courtesy of George W. Bush. We saw how that played out. He actually started with a surplus and stable economy, and by the time he was done, we were on the brink of another depression.

Now like the movie, we're seeing a president enter into the groundhog matrix. He too inherited an economic growth of five years, only to give his pals billions in tax breaks.

That's a lot of Big Macs.

Now we're hearing that the Republicans are considering an infrastructure bill. But the catch is that the states are expected to pick up a large share of the cost. How many here in Illinois are open to more state taxes? Is that \$930 starting to look smaller now?

Since this is a repeat of my past rhetoric, I have a question for the moral majority. Is the fact that Donald Trump proclaimed he was against abortion, even though I've never seen a video of his stating this before his campaign, or him attending a church other than his three marriages, a

reason enough to support him? And I have to ask one more time, why haven't there been any bills introduced to reverse *Roe v. Wade* with a majority of Republicans in congress?

And gun owners, I would like to remind you that to abolish the Second Amendment, it would take not only a bill passed by congress and signed by the president, but it would have to be ratified by two thirds of the states. The chances of this happening are that of a snowfall in Death Valley.

One of Trump's many off-the-wall statements was that he loved the uneducated. This sounds like a quote from another famous ringmaster P.T. Barnum, who's most famous quote was "There's one born every minute." One circus has been shut down. Now let's shut down the other in November and in the Russian version of Watergate, one way or another, with no bias.

Let's hope the groundhog doesn't see his shadow on this one.

Daryl Ice, of Benton, is a regular letter-writer to *The Southern*.