

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Thoughts on a Soda Tax

Taxes are often implemented as a means to change or encourage certain behaviors in citizens. In August 2017, the City of Chicago began imposing a controversial soda-pop-tax as a way to fight obesity by cutting down on sugar intake and encouraging healthier drink alternatives.

The tax was one penny per ounce on all sweetened, pre-packaged beverages. The tax was predicted to raise \$200 million in the first year. About two months later, however, after opposers claimed the tax really had nothing to do with public health, but instead was just another way to get more money from taxpayers, lawmakers cancelled the tax.

What do you think? Should lawmakers charge a tax on beverages, like soda, to encourage people to drink healthier alternatives? Why or why not?

