



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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Congressional candidate Curt Bromm to raise taxes

In his bid for Congress, Nebraska's state house speaker declines opportunity to sign No New Taxes Pledge – even as every new Republican congressman elected since 1994 has taken the Pledge.

WASHINGTON – Since the early 1990s, the Republican Party has increasingly taken on the role of the “no tax increase party.” No Republican congressman has voted for a tax increase at the federal level since 1992.

But the national Republican consensus against tax hikes seems to have left one candidate in the cracks. Curt Bromm, the speaker of the Nebraska legislature who is also a Republican candidate for Nebraska's first congressional district, wrote in a letter to Americans for Tax Reform president Grover G. Norquist that he will not sign the Taxpayer Protection Pledge – a written promise from candidates and elected officials to “oppose any and all efforts to increase taxes.”

“Not a single Republican at the federal level has voted for a tax increase since 1992. Now why on earth would Bromm want to break with that tradition?” asked taxpayer advocate Grover Norquist, who heads ATR in Washington. **“Bromm has effectively taken the pro-tax side of the Washington debate. Not a surprise – after he helped override Gov. Johann's veto of a measure that would amount to a \$ 865 million tax increase over four years.**

Currently, President George W. Bush, 216 Republican House members, 42 U.S. Senators, eight governors and over 1,200 state legislators and elected officials have signed the Pledge. **U.S. Sen. Chuck Hagel, and Reps. Lee Terry and Tom Osborne have all signed the Pledge.** Americans for Tax Reform, which promotes the Pledge, is widely considered the most influential taxpayer advocacy organization in America.

“Congressional tax hikers prey on the weak-willed, those who won't vow to protect taxpayers,” continued Norquist. **“If elected, before long Nebraska voters will hear stories of Bromm's vote being lured away by Democrats like Nancy Pelosi and Washington's big spending lobbies when the tax hike bills come up.”**

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal, state and local tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Jonathan Collegio at (202) 785-0266 or at jcollegio@atr.org.