



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

1920 L Street, NW • Suite 200 • Washington, DC 20036
202.785.0266 • Fax 202.785.0261

WWW.ATR.ORG

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CONTACT: Jonathan Collegio
Christopher Butler
202-785-0266

Toomey, Specter a World Apart

Toomey's lifetime Americans for Tax Reform rating dwarfs Specter's-- 99.6% to 65.2%

WASHINGTON—The two Republican candidates for the U.S. Senate have stacked up very different records on issues of concern to taxpayers, America's leading taxpayer group says. In its annual ratings of the U.S. Congress, Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) grades both Representatives and Senators on key votes such as tax increases or decreases and wasteful spending. **Grading their entire time in the Senate and House respectively, Arlen Specter's lifetime average is 65.2%, while Pat Toomey's is 99.6%.**

"Sen. Specter deservedly received his first-ever 'Friend of the Taxpayer' award for voting with taxpayers on key votes 85% of the time last year. **But Pennsylvanians need to know the full record. Sen. Specter's lifetime record is only 65.2%, including last year's strong showing.**" said ATR President Grover Norquist.

Americans for Tax Reform "Friend of the Taxpayer" Ratings

Year	Sen. Arlen Specter (R)	Rep. Pat Toomey (R)
2003	85	100
2002	65	100
2001	70	100
2000	75	100
1999	45	98
1998	45	
1997	60	
1996	70	
1995	70	
1994	67	
Lifetime Average	65.2	99.6

Norquist noted that during his career in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Toomey has built up a strong record of voting with taxpayers' interests.

"Over the past 5 years, his entire time in Congress, Representative Toomey has averaged over 99% in his votes in support of taxpayers interests. That is a number that few in Congress can beat," Norquist said.

In 2003, Rep. Toomey was one of only 40 members of the House to vote in the interests of taxpayers on 100% of the key votes rated by ATR.

For details on the ratings produced by Americans for Tax Reform, and an explanation of key votes, see: <http://www.ATR.org/ratings/> .

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.