



# NEWS

## AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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29 JULY 2004

## Fact of the Day #1: State Sen. John Vratil Voted to Raise Income, Sales, and Property Taxes

*Sen. Vratil sided with the big-spenders in Topeka*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Last spring, State Sen. John Vratil (S-11) voted to raid the pocketbooks of hard-working families in Kansas in order to continue high levels of spending growth in state and local government.

**Gov. Sebelius proposed, and the Kansas House passed, increases in the income tax and the sales tax, and authorization for localities to raise property taxes.** Kansas taxpayers faced a possible triple-whammy.

### What did Sen. Vratil Support?

- A 4.5 percent surcharge on the state income tax
- Raising the state sales tax from 5.2 percent to 5.5 percent, tying Kansas with Nebraska for the **region's highest sales tax.**
- Authorization for local property tax increases

Sen. Vratil has refused to make a written commitment to defend taxpayers by signing the Taxpayer Protection Pledge. Taken by President Bush, 42 U.S. Senators, 217 Congressmen, 8 governors, and over 1290 state legislators – including 26 from Kansas – the Pledge commits an official to **“oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes.”**

## Kansas Taxpayers Can't Afford Senator Vratil.

*Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact Jonathan Collegio at (202) 785-0266 or by email at [jcollegio@atr.org](mailto:jcollegio@atr.org).*