



# NEWS

## AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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## **Kerry Health Care Power Grab to Cost \$1.5 Trillion**

*Plan would enroll millions in Hillary-style scheme*

**WASHINGTON** — Americans for Tax Reform President Grover Norquist today expressed concern that Senator Kerry's health care plan would result in the largest expansion of government ever.

In an independent study conducted by the American Enterprise Institute and peer-reviewed by health care experts, Kerry's plan is slated to cost \$1.5 trillion over ten years. A majority of that money is to expand Medicaid in the largest power-grab in the history of the program.

**“This is the most blatant attempt at universal, government-run health care since the Hillarycare era a decade ago,”** said Norquist. **“Senator Kerry would have to raise taxes on every American in order to pay for his massive expansion of government-run health care.”**

The Kerry health care scheme is almost as impotent as it is expensive. It would cost over \$5500 per year to give an uninsured American coverage under his plan. President Bush's health savings account-based plan (which is paid for in his budget request) would cost only \$1900 per newly-insured American.

**“There is no way that Senator Kerry can raise taxes on “the rich” and use that money to pay for his risky health care scheme and his other spending dreams,”** continued Norquist. **“All told, Kerry's spending tab is now approaching \$5 trillion over a decade. He also plans on balancing the budget in that time. Does anyone seriously believe he can do that just by passing the hat in Nantucket and Georgetown?”**

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

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