



# NEWS

## AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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## Americans for Tax Reform Statement Regarding Georgia 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Primary

WASHINGTON, D.C. – A tax vote taken in the Georgia Senate during the debate surrounding the 2003 and 2004 budget in the spring of 2003 has become a key issue in the GOP primary race for the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional seat in Georgia. Americans for Tax Reform (ATR), the nation's premier taxpayer advocacy organization, has been invoked by both sides to justify their positions.

ATR wishes to clear up the confusion and today issued the following statement:

**“ATR played an active role in the FY 2003 supplemental and FY 2004 budget battles in Georgia,”** said taxpayer advocate Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **“On the FY 2003 budget, we worked extensively with Tom Price. Sen. Price led the fight against tax increases proposed by the newly elected Republican governor and the Republican Senate president. He bucked his party leadership and put his career on the line. Ultimately, his efforts crushed the tax increases for FY 2003. For this, we awarded Sen. Price the ‘Hero of the Taxpayer’ award.**

**“During the FY 2004 deliberations, we again tried to work with Sen. Price,”** Norquist continued. **“Initially, Sen. Price stayed true to his ‘no new taxes’ position. He was instrumental in drafting a no-tax-increase budget for the Senate, as an alternative to a House-passed budget that contained numerous tax increases. For this action, we again praised Sen. Price. But in our statement praising him and the Senate, we cautioned that the remaining budget hole MUST be closed by economizing on the spending side, not by raising revenues. We offered several potential solutions, including privatizing state property, outsourcing the state vehicle fleet, and refinancing debt.**

**“Unfortunately, Sen. Price and Sen. Chuck Clay voted on April 25<sup>th</sup> for a \$180 million tax increase. No promised tax reduction scheduled for years into an uncertain future can offset a massive, certain tax increase today.**

**“Sen. Robert Lamutt is the only candidate in this race who stood with taxpayers each and every time and consistently opposed tax increases.”**

*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).*