



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

# LEGISLATIVE ALERT

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## Senate Should Reject Invasion of Medical Privacy

In the upcoming lame duck session, many extraneous bills may be added to an omnibus budget bill or be passed quickly under time pressures. One of those bills would be a particularly bad idea for America: HR 3015, the “National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act of 2004.”

The House bill requires the states, as a condition of obtaining federal funding, to establish programs requiring physicians and other providers to report the “name, address, and telephone number” of any individual who receives a prescription for a wide range of drugs, including anti-psychotic and anti-depressant drugs commonly prescribed by patients suffering from mental and emotional disorders.

HR 3015 would impede access to needed health care by law-abiding citizens. It would violate the Fourth Amendment protection against unreasonable searches and seizures. It would jeopardize the medical privacy of all Americans, especially elected officials and other public figures (who have less assumed rights of privacy by the courts). HR 3015 makes it increasingly difficult for patients and their doctors to understand what privacy rights they have.

**ATR opposes HR 3015 as an unreasonable government intrusion on the privacy rights of patients and their doctors.**