



# NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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## Kansas Legislators Named to Taxpayers' "Hall of Shame"

*Seven Kansas legislators violated Pledge not to raise taxes.*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Americans for Tax Reform (ATR), the nation's leading taxpayer advocacy group, has named six Kansas state representatives and one Kansas state senator to its **"Hall of Shame"** for violating a commitment made to the taxpayers of the state.

Since 1986, officials across the country have signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, a written commitment to **"oppose and vote against/veto any and all efforts to increase taxes."** Currently, President Bush, 42 U.S. Senators, 218 Congressmen, eight governors, and more than 1320 state legislators have signed the Pledge.

**"Signing the Pledge is the single most important step a candidate or incumbent can take to demonstrate his or her commitment to taxpayers' interests,"** said Grover Norquist, President of ATR. **"It is a commitment to the people of Kansas to protect their wallets against raids by the big-spenders in Topeka. Breaking the Pledge by voting to raise taxes is a betrayal of that commitment, and it reveals an official's anti-tax stand to be little more than election year grandstanding."**

The following legislators broke their commitment to taxpayers by voting for one or both of the following measures: HB 2940 and SB 403 which would have increased income, sales and property taxes. With regard to HB 2940, two House votes were counted: committee of the whole vote on 3/25/04, and the vote on final passage on 3/26/04.

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|--|---|
| 1. Jim Barone (S-13) – both measures                 | 5. Ted Powers (H-81) – HB 2940 (whole)                |
| 2. Mary Compton (H-13) – HB 2940 (whole)             | 6. Dale Swenson (H-97) – HB 2940 (whole and final)    |
| 3. Ray Cox (H-39) – HB 2940 (whole and final)        | 7. Daniel Thimesch (H-93) – HB 2940 (whole and final) |
| 4. Jo Ann Pottorf (H-83) – HB 2940 (whole and final) |   |

The following Pledge signers honored their commitment to taxpayers in 2004:

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|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Ed Pugh (S-1)          | 11. Andrew Howell (H-4)     | 21. Bonnie Huy (H-87)      |
| 2. Mark Gilstrap (S-5)    | 12. Jene Vickrey (H-6)      | 22. Steve Huebert (H-90)   |
| 3. Kay O'Connor (S-9)     | 13. Dan Williams (H-14)     | 23. Brenda Landwehr (H-91) |
| 4. Robert Tyson (S-12)    | 14. John Ballou (H-43)      | 24. Willa DeCastro (H-96)  |
| 5. David Jackson (S-18)   | 15. Vern Osborne (H-61)     | 25. Todd Novascone (H-99)  |
| 6. Karin Brownlee (S-23)  | 16. Don Dahl (H-70)         | 26. Mary Kauffman (H-101)  |
| 7. Phillip Journey (S-26) | 17. William G. Mason (H-75) | 27. Melvin Neufeld (H-115) |
| 8. Susan Wagle (S-30)     | 18. Peggy Long (H-76)       | 28. Ralph Ostmeyer (H-118) |
| 9. Tim Huelskamp (S-38)   | 19. Don Myers (H-82)        |                            |
| 10. Stan Clark (S-40)     | 20. Steve Brunk (H-85)      |                            |