



NEWS

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Fact of the Day #2: Rep. Atsalis' Tax-and-Spend Style Endangers MA Families

-- Atsalis' tax-raising record puts jobs in danger --

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The country has seen the creation of roughly 2 million jobs since August 2003 as a result of President Bush's tax cuts. President Bush, a signer of the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, made a commitment to "oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes".

In 2001, Rep. Demetrius Atsalis made the same commitment to his constituents by signing the Taxpayer Protection Pledge. He broke his commitment in July of 2002 by voting for a huge tax increase package – price tag: \$1.14 billion.

He gave his constituents a guarantee that he would not raise taxes, but did so anyway. Would Rep. Atsalis do it again?

With special interest groups pushing for higher taxes, Rep. Atsalis' tax-increasing record leaves the door open to other tax increases that may harm Massachusetts families:

- **Raising death taxes** – destroys family farms and small businesses.
- **Raising sales taxes** – raises the cost of living for all Massachusetts families.
- **Raising income taxes** – threatens family businesses and job creation.
- **Raising gasoline taxes** – raises the cost of every good transported within the state, raising the cost of living for all families.

"The country has seen phenomenal economic growth as a result of the president's tax cuts," said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **"The families of Massachusetts, like all Americans, have felt the positive effects of President Bush's tax cuts. Rep. Atsalis' tax-and-spend record not only endangers the financial well-being of Massachusetts families, it also reveals that his signing of the Protection Pledge in 2001 was nothing but election grandstanding."**

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 Chris Butler at (202) 785-0266 or by email at cbutler@atr.org.