



NEWS

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Oklahoma Fact of the Day #3: Candidate Ryan McMullen May Stall the Engine of Growth

WASHINGTON, D.C. – **Candidate Ryan McMullen (H-55) has declined several offers to sign the Taxpayer Protection Pledge.** By doing so, they are giving an open invitation to the big spenders to push for higher taxes in the next legislative session, which will most certainly revolve around the issue of tax reform.

The options for higher taxes are wide, and may not only adversely affect Oklahoma taxpayers at the personal level, but also the state's business climate. Currently, Oklahoma ranks 30th in the Small Business Survival Index 2004 issued by the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Council.

If the tax burden on businesses and residents were increased, the state might embark on a trail that may be dangerous for the state's economy and fiscal health, by putting small business - the backbone of every state's economy - at risk.



According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, 75% of all new jobs are created by small business – they are the engine of growth.



Thanks to President Bush's tax cutting policies, the national economy has picked up steam and has created almost 2 million jobs since August 2003. The positive momentum has carried over into the states.

Raising taxes would only derail the train of economic recovery, and stall the engine of growth – it should not be an option.

Still, Ryan McMullen prefers to leave this option on the table.

His opponent John English has signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge and thus pledges “to oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes.”

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.