



# NEWS

## AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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## Fact of the Day #2: Franzoni's and Firestone's Position on Taxes Endangers Oregon's Families

*-- Hank Franzoni, candidate for Senate District 12, and Kathryn Firestone, candidate for House District 51 have refused to rule out tax increases --*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On February 3, 2004, Oregonians took to the polls and soundly defeated Ballot Measure 30, a massive \$800 million tax hike by 60 to 40 percent. A year before, Oregonian voters rejected Measure 28, a \$313 million tax increase by ballot measure. The message should be clear: Oregonians don't want their wallets to be raided.

Yet, two candidates challenging sound fiscal conservatives who fought against last year's tax hike in the legislature, have not gotten the message. These two candidates have refused to sign the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, a written commitment to "oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes":

- House 51: Union-backed Kathryn Firestone, challenging incumbent Pledge signer Rep. Linda Flores.
- Senate 12: Trial lawyer Hank Franzoni, challenging incumbent Pledge signer Gary George.

**The tax hike Oregonians defeated early this year, would have had devastating consequences for Oregon:**

- 289,000 small businesses would have had to pay higher taxes
- 100,000 seniors would have suffered under the planned repeal of medical deductions
- The minimum tax for businesses would have had to pay would have increased by 2,500%
- The property tax would have increased by \$40,000,000 per year.

**Still, Franzoni and Firestone are willing to put their constituents' pocketbooks on the line. Franzoni reportedly want to repass provisions of last year's tax hike. Their opponents Rep. Linda Flores and Sen. Gary George will continue to stand up for taxpayers' interests and will "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](mailto:cbutler@atr.org).*