



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vermont's Taxpayer Friendly Candidates for November

- These candidates have pledged to protect Vermont taxpayers -

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) asks all candidates for federal and state office to sign the Taxpayer Protection Pledge and thus demonstrate their solidarity with the taxpayers of their entire state, and district if applicable. **By signing the pledge, a candidate commits “to oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes.”**

Pledge signers are in good company: President Bush has signed the Pledge, and in so doing he joins 42 U.S. Senators, 217 Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, eight Governors, four Lieutenant Governors, two Attorneys General, four Secretaries of State, four Treasurers, and more than 1320 state legislators.

“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. **“I extend the invitation to sign the pledge to every incumbent and candidate running for office, in the hopes that more elected officials will dedicate themselves to taxpayers, rather than tax-and-spending.”** In Vermont, the following Pledge signers have either won their primary election on September 14, 2004, or were running unopposed:

INCUMBENTS UP FOR RE-ELECTION

1. Leigh Larocque (Caledonia-1)
2. Mary Morrissey (Bennington 2-2)
3. Carolyn Whitney Branagan (Franklin 1-2)
4. Patricia O'Donnell (Windham-1)
5. Leo M. Valliere (Washington 3-1)

NEW CANDIDATES

1. Hardy Machia (Gov.)
2. Karen A. Kerin (Att. Gen.)
3. Dennis Carver (Att. Gen.)
4. John MacGovern (S-3, Windsor County)
5. Michael H. Quaid (S-6, Chittenden)
6. Shelley D. Palmer (H-2, Chittenden)

The following incumbent Pledge signers are not seeking re-election:

1. Virginia Duffy (Rutland 5-1)
2. Carl J. Haas (Rutland 5-3)

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.

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