



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

# LEGISLATIVE ALERT

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## Last Minute Gasp to Take Away Overtime Enhancement

This week, the United States House of Representatives will be voting on the appropriations bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. An amendment may be offered to that bill that would kill desperately-needed enhancement and strengthening of overtime rules, just as businesses and taxpayers are beginning to implement them.

The rules governing overtime regulations hadn't been updated in decades. As a result, millions of workers in new economy-era jobs were uncertain if they were eligible for overtime. President Bush changed all that with the first update of the rules since 1949. Among other things, it guarantees overtime to any worker making less than about \$24,000 per year (about three times the current guarantee). It explicitly protects first responders, nurses, and blue collar workers. The simplicity and clarity of the new rules will prevent junk lawsuits and give workers and their employers confidence going forward.

The new overtime rules went into effect in late August. Plans have been made and workplace arrangements set. Now some in Congress want to disrupt American workers by tearing down the Department of Labor's common-sense update of overtime rules. **ATR strongly supports the current overtime rules as written, and opposes desperate attempts to turn back the clock on American workers.**

**ATR WILL RATE THIS VOTE IN OUR  
ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL RATINGS**