



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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Fact of the Day #2: Arizona's Taxpayers Focus on Two Contested Primaries in the Senate

--Senator Jack Harper and Representative John Huppenthal want to continue to defend taxpayers' interests in the Senate after the election --

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Incumbent Senator Jack Harper, Senate District 4, has to defend his seat in the Republican primary next week. He is being challenged by Susan Burke, president of the governing board of the Deer Valley Unified School District

Rep. John Huppenthal, House district 4, is challenging the incumbent Senator in district 20, Slade Mead, a notorious tax hiker.

Both Senator Jack Harper and Representative John Huppenthal are signers of the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, a written commitment to “oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes.”

Their opponents have declined to make this important commitment.

Burke has shied away from signing the pledge and is evasive on the issue: “We’ve got huge issues with education, health care, illegal immigration. I keep bringing them up, but no one addresses them. They just say, ‘No new taxes.’” Yet, Harper and Huppenthal don’t just say it – they mean it:

Sen. Slade Mead sponsored a number of tax increase proposals, among them a package seeking to increase taxes on Arizona families by \$1 billion in 2003.

Thanks to legislators like Sen. Harper and Rep. Huppenthal this tax increase never passed. And thanks to them, the 2004 legislative session ended without a tax increase, even though Sen. Mead had again proposed higher 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.