



NEWS

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8 SEPTEMBER 2004

Taxpayers Win in Arizona Senate Races

-- Voters in Senate districts 4 and 20 make a clear statement: Principles matter! --

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Taxpayers’ attention in Arizona focused on two primary races yesterday: Incumbent Senator Jack Harper, Senate District 4, defended his seat in the Republican primary. He was challenged by Susan Burke, president of the governing board of the Deer Valley Unified School District.

Rep. John Huppenthal, currently representing constituents in the 20th House district, successfully challenged the incumbent Senator in district 20, Slade Mead, a notorious tax hiker.

Both Sen. Harper and Rep. Huppenthal are signers of the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, a written commitment to “oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes,” and have honored their Pledge in the past. Their opponents had declined to make this important commitment, and were clearly defeated at the ballot box.

“The taxpayers of both Senate districts 4 and 20 made it clear: For them, principles do matter. They appreciate legislators who stand up for their interests, like Harper and Huppenthal,” said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform in Washington, DC. **“The margins of victory in both races leave no doubt: Taxpayers do not want their wallets to be raided.”**

Representative Huppenthal clearly defeated Sen. Slade Mead, who sponsored various tax hike proposals in the past – among them tax hike package as high as \$1 billion - by 62.7% to 37.3%. Jack Harper also clearly won his primary against Susan Burke, who had been evasive and non-committal on the tax issue, by 61% to 39%.

“Taxpayers won big in Arizona yesterday,” continued Norquist. **“With Jack Harper and John Huppenthal, taxpayers will have legislators in the Senate who do not only talk the talk, but also walk the walk, and honor their commitment to their constituents.”**

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.