



# NEWS

## AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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## Republican House Member Sherwood Boehlert Signs “No New Taxes” Pledge

*Incumbent U.S. Rep. Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) becomes 217<sup>th</sup> member of U.S. House of Representatives to sign Taxpayer Protection Pledge against federal tax increases.*

WASHINGTON – Tax hikes are increasingly a raw deal, even where Republican “moderates” are concerned.

So it came as no surprise when longtime U.S. Rep. Sherwood Boehlert (R) from the upstate 24<sup>th</sup> congressional district of New York, became the 217<sup>th</sup> member of the U.S. House of Representatives to sign the Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) Taxpayer Protection Pledge – making the U.S. House one vote shy of a no tax increase majority.

**“No new taxes’ is the unstated but very visible theme of the modern Republican Party,”** said taxpayer advocate Grover Norquist, who heads ATR in Washington. **“Sherry Boehlert has voted to cut taxes many times. Now, New Yorkers and all Americans can know he won’t vote to raise the taxes he cut.”**

Currently, President George W. Bush, 217 members of the U.S. House, 42 U.S. Senators, nine governors and over 1,270 state legislators have signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge. For federal candidates and elected officials, it reads “I pledge to the taxpayers of [my] district of the state of \_\_\_\_\_ and to the American people that I will: One, oppose any and all efforts to increase the marginal income tax rates for individuals and/or businesses; and two; oppose any net reduction or elimination or deductions and credits, unless matched dollar for dollar further reducing tax rates.”

Rep. Boehlert, from a conservative-leaning congressional district in upstate New York, has been challenged in the Republican primaries in the previous two election cycles. But neither Boehlert, nor any Republican member of Congress has voted for a tax increase since 1991.

**“Boehlert’s pledge is another sign that ‘no new taxes’ is the consensus of the Republican Party,”** continued Norquist. **“No tax increase has passed at the federal level since 1993, and since Reagan, no tax increase has been the modus operandi of the Republican Party. Republican tax hikers are like rat heads in Coca Cola bottles, and Rep. Boehlert has passed the quality check.”**

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal, state and local tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Jonathan Collegio at (202) 785-0266 or at [jcollegio@atr.org](mailto:jcollegio@atr.org).