



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

1920 L Street, NW • Suite 200 • Washington, DC 20036
202.785.0266 • Fax 202.785.0261

WWW.ATR.ORG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Paul Proski
Sandra Fabry
202-785-0266

16 APRIL 2004

McGreevey and Kerry: Two Peas in a Pod

“Dynamic Tax Duo” slap NJ taxpayers in the face proposing tax increases on Tax Day

WASHINGTON – Yesterday, Gov. James E. McGreevey (D) called for raising the state income tax. Today, Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry visits the Garden State (3rd highest tax state in the country) with a plan to raise taxes on working New Jersey families on Tax Day of all days. A Kerry-McGreevey President/Governor combination would be a serious blow to New Jersey taxpayers next April 15th.

“I find it quite ironic McGreevey initially endorsed Howard Dean over John Kerry,” said taxpayer advocate Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **“McGreevey and Kerry are two peas in a pod when it comes to taxes. They both want to raise taxes so bad that even on the day taxpayers are struggling to file their taxes, the dynamic duo are out campaigning for higher taxes.”**

McGreevey repeatedly stressed in his campaign for governor that he would not raise taxes. Two days after being sworn into office he announced he was breaking that promise and narrowed his promise not to raise taxes on sales or income. Taxes have been increased by a cumulative \$4 billion since. Yesterday he announced he was breaking the amended promise to the amended promise of the promise. What this means in English is that McGreevey is ready to raise the income tax and it won't be limited to just millionaires as it is being falsely advertised by “Pay to Play” Speaker Albio Sires.

Sen. Kerry is also playing the class warfare card claiming he is only repealing tax cuts for households making over \$200,000. However, Clinton campaigned on a similar promise and after being elected attacked middle class families by raising taxes on gasoline, Social Security benefits, and small businesses. Most taxpayers agree that Kerry will follow a similar path as a recent Rasmussenreport.com poll found 44 percent of voters believe Kerry will raise their taxes while just 10 percent believe their taxes will go down.

“Fool me once shame on you, fool me twice shame on me,” continued Norquist. **“McGreevey weaseled his way into office claiming he was not going to raise taxes and then pillaged state taxpayers. Kerry is trying to do the same to New Jersey taxpayers at the federal level with McGreevey on his side. Hopefully, New Jersey taxpayers will see through this devious scheme this election cycle.”**

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 Jonathan Collegio at (202) 785-0266 or by email at jcollegio@atr.org.