



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 Prososki
Kristine Esposito
202-785-0266

3 JUNE 2004

Michigan State Senator Johnson to Propose Entertainment Tax

-- Bill would impose tax on for-profit entertainment in Michigan--

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Michigan Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Senator Shirley Johnson (R-Royal Oak) will propose a bill to impose a five percent entertainment tax on for-profit entertainment in Michigan.

This tax will be hard to swallow for sports fanatics, as the tax will affect entertainment such as Tiger Baseball; Detroit Pistons Basketball; Detroit Lions Football; Detroit Red Wings Hockey and the like. This is the most recent addition to the numerous tax increases that Michigan taxpayers have seen lately. Governor Granholm recently proposed a 60 percent increase in the cigarette tax, continuation of the death tax, and doubling the tax on Detroit casinos.

“Once again, Michigan lawmakers are raiding the taxpayers’ pockets to make up for their lack of fiscal responsibility,” said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **“This is just one of many recent attempts to burden the people of Michigan with tax increases. When will it end?”**

Senator Johnson’s plan would raise \$50 million to go towards arts organizations and cultural facilities.

“Senator Johnson’s lack of fiscal leadership and inability to cut spending is evident,” continued Norquist. **“Her plan will not only burden an industry that is essential to the state of Michigan, but also hard-working families.”**

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.