



NEWS

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Michigan Senate Rejects Tax Increases

-- Senate votes down several tax increase proposals --

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Michigan Senate on Thursday, June 17 rejected doubling the tax on Detroit casinos, continuing an estate tax that would expire at the year's end, and a higher spirits tax. Legislators also put off voting on a cigarette tax increase.

While there had been talk about senators being willing to compromise on taxes, today's votes and the decision to postpone a vote on the tobacco tax come as a relief to Michigan taxpayers.

“Thankfully, the Michigan Senate has put the brakes on Governor Granholm’s tax-and-spend spree,” said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **“When the cigarette tax finally comes to a vote, I hope they will continue to stand up to the governor’s reckless spending by voting it down.”**

The proposed tax on Detroit casinos would have doubled to 32 percent, while the proposed cigarette tax would increase the tax on tobacco products by 60 percent. The spirits tax would have increased the cost of a 10 dollar bottle by 50 cents. Last month, the Michigan House rejected both an increase in the spirits tax and an extension of the estate tax. However, it passed the doubling of the casino tax and an increase in the cigarette tax.

“The Michigan Senate deserves credit for voting down the tax increase proposals.” continued Norquist. **“Hopefully, Senators will hold the line and continue to prevent the Governor from raiding taxpayers’ wallets. The hard-working people of Michigan deserve it.”**

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.