



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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Patrick Ballantine Signs No-New-Taxes Pledge

Gubernatorial Candidate in North Carolina Promises to Oppose Tax Increases

WASHINGTON, D.C. – **Americans for Tax Reform applauds the pro-taxpayer platform of Patrick Ballantine, who is running for the Republican nomination for governor in North Carolina.**

Mr. Ballantine demonstrated his dedication to the taxpayers of North Carolina by signing the Taxpayer Protection Pledge on July 12, 2004. By signing the pledge, Ballantine promises “to oppose and veto any and all efforts to increase taxes.”

Mr. Ballantine’s opponents in the Republican primary, Richard Vinroot and George Little, signed the Pledge earlier in the campaign season. Former state GOP Chair Bill Cobey, Sen. Fern Shubert, and Davie County Commissioner Dan Barrett have refused to sign the Pledge.

As of today’s date, eight governors and over 1280 state legislators, as well as four lieutenant governors, two attorneys general, four secretaries of state, four state treasurers, 217 U.S. representatives, 42 U.S. senators, and President George W. Bush have signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge.

“Patrick Ballantine joins numerous lawmakers and candidates at the state and federal levels who have committed themselves to principles of limited government,” commented Grover Norquist, President of ATR.

“I applaud Mr. Ballantine for his commitment to all taxpayers of North Carolina. I urge Bill Cobey and all the other candidates for governor to sign the Pledge, in the hopes that more elected officials will dedicate themselves to taxpayers, rather than tax-and-spending.”

ATR offers the Taxpayer Protection Pledge to all candidates seeking office at the state and federal levels, and also to sitting incumbents. To obtain a copy of the Pledge, or to learn more about it, please visit www.ATR.org or call Paul Proski at (202) 785-0266.

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.