



NEWS

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Rep. Doug Smith Leads South Carolina in Calling on Congress to Support the President's Effort to Protect the United States

State legislators urge congressional action.

WASHINGTON- Today, Americans for Tax Reform (ATR), the nation's leading taxpayers advocacy group, praised South Carolina Rep. W. Douglas Smith (R-32) for his aggressiveness in protecting Americans from terrorists and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Recently, Rep. W. Douglas Smith introduced a resolution urging Congress to support the obligation of the United States to meet the threat of terrorists and rogue states, and ATR has endorsed his efforts at using the power of South Carolina's influence to shape congressional debate.

ATR's State Legislative Advisory Project, launched in 2001, is an effort to help give state legislators a louder voice in federal policymaking. In the project's first year, twenty-seven states passed resolutions urging their congressional delegations to support the Economic Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act. As of May, 2004, state legislators have already introduced 160 different resolutions in 40 legislative bodies in 27 states.

Taxpayer advocate Grover Norquist, president of ATR, praised Rep. W. Douglas Smith's efforts. **"Americans for Tax Reform applauds Rep. W. Douglas Smith for strengthening the voices of state legislators working to bring critical issues to the forefront of congressional debate. Americans are not willing to wait patiently for another tragedy to inflict more damage on our country."**

Rep. W. Douglas Smith's resolution shows South Carolina's congressional delegates that their constituents expect the U.S. to take action to protect against terrorists and those states that threaten Americans.

"Failing to support the President's efforts at self-defense is the same as putting weapons of mass destruction into the hands of anti-American terrorists," said Norquist. **"Congress must be held accountable to Americans who deserve to live without the fear of another attack against the United States."**

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.