



# NEWS

## AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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# Jump in State Revenues Show Little Need for Education Tax Increase

*--Texas Legislature considers special session--*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government recently released a study indicating that state tax revenue grew 8.1 percent nationwide from January through March compared to last year. The state of Texas is no exception. In fact, according to the University of Texas at Arlington's Office of Governmental and Community Relations, the state is not projecting a budget shortfall. The Texas state legislature is currently considering a special session to discuss ways to fund the state's education system. Some lawmakers have already suggested increasing taxes.

**“What is happening in Texas is a national trend,”** said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **“Many states are now predicting economic surpluses, further eliminating the need for any tax increases.”**

A similar case is occurring in the state of Virginia where, after its legislature deceptively passed a \$1.38 billion tax hike, has seen a year-to-date revenue growth rate of 9.5 percent and forecasts a \$200 million surplus at the end of the fiscal year.

**“With economic success evident, there is no reason for lawmakers to burden taxpayers with tax hikes,”** continued Norquist. **“As the Texas legislature considers a special session, the people of Texas will look to those who have signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge for their leadership in defending them against tax increases.”**

The following legislators have signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge:

- |                           |                                |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Todd Staples (S-3)     | 15. Harvey Hilderbran (H-53)   | 29. Bill Keffer (H-107)        |
| 2. Tommy Williams (S-4)   | 16. Dianne White Delisi (H-55) | 30. Fred Hill (H-112)          |
| 3. Chris Harris (S-9)     | 17. Arlene Wohlgemuth (H-58)   | 31. Will Harnett (H-114)       |
| 4. Kyle Janek (S-17)      | 18. Jim Keffer (H-60)          | 32. Ken Marchant (H-115)       |
| 5. Dan Flynn (H-2)        | 19. Phil King (H-61)           | 33. Frank Corte (H-122)        |
| 6. Leo Berman (H-6)       | 20. Myra Crownover (H-64)      | 34. Corbin Van Arsdale (H-130) |
| 7. Fred Brown (H-14)      | 21. Jerry Madden (H-67)        | 35. Bill Callegari (H-132)     |
| 8. Larry Taylor (H-24)    | 22. Scott Campbell (H-72)      | 36. Joe Nixon (H-133)          |
| 9. Charlie Howard (H-26)  | 23. Tom Craddick (H-82)        | 37. Martha Wong (H-134)        |
| 10. Glenn Hegar (H-28)    | 24. Carl Isett (H-84)          | 38. Gary Elkins (H-135)        |
| 11. Gene Seaman (H-32)    | 25. John Smithee (H-86)        | 39. Dwayne Bohac (H-138)       |
| 12. Edmund Kuempel (H-44) | 26. Kent Grusendorf (H-94)     | 40. Robert Talton (H-144)      |
| 13. Todd Baxter (H-48)    | 27. Bill Zedler (H-96)         | 41. Talmadge Heflin (H-149)    |
| 14. Mike Krusee (H-52)    | 28. Elvira Reyna (H-101)       |                                |

*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](mailto:jcollegio@atr.org).*



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