



NEWS

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Anti-Tax Hike Group on the Ground in Virginia Budget Battle

-- Americans for Tax Reform joins Virginia politicians in their fight against higher taxes at a rally in Richmond --

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Americans for Tax Reform, the nation’s leading taxpayer advocacy group, joined the Republican Party of Virginia in their effort to speak out against the tax hike proposals floating around in the legislature and the Governor’s office, during a rally held on the grounds of the Capitol in Richmond on Monday, March 8.

Under the leadership of Party Chairman Kate Griffin Obenshain, high profile speakers such as Attorney General Jerry Kilgore, and Senator Ken Cuccinelli made clear that they would do everything in their powers to prevent a tax increase in Virginia, and requested that the state should live within its means. Paul Proski, State Government Affairs Manager at Americans for Tax Reform, and Elizabeth Hackett, State Coalition Manager at ATR met with state legislators after the rally in order to convince them to vote against any tax increase and offer their support to help them fight back big spenders.

“At a time when Richmond has become a playing field for special interest, we are here to offer grassroots support to help legislators do the right thing.” said Proski. **“The taxpayers of Virginia have stated over and over again that they reject being taxed at oppressive rates and want their government to tighten its fiscal belt. The politicians at today’s rally clearly understand this, and we are here to help them.”**

The rally in Richmond took place against the background of a fierce budget battle, which has gained new momentum after two former Governors, George Allen and Douglas Wilder, and the Speaker of the House, William J. Howell, have supported the idea of taking the tax increase proposal before the people and let them decide in a referendum.

“While only a few weeks ago it seemed that a tax hike was more than likely to pass, anti-tax increase forces have seen a turning of the tides after a number of polls and phone banking campaigns have set the record straight: Voters do not want a tax hike!” Proski continued.

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.