



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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34 Candidates Sign 'No New Taxes-Pledge' in One Day

-- West Virginians Pledge To Fight Against Higher Taxes --

WASHINGTON, D.C. – West Virginia's taxpayers saw a drastic increase in candidates pledging to stand up for their interests on Saturday, June 26. During a lunch sponsored by Americans for Tax Reform, 34 candidates for the November elections joined gubernatorial candidate Monroe P. 'Monty' Warner, who had called on them to stand with him in a united front against higher taxes, and signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge. By signing the Pledge, a candidate pledges to "oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes."

Americans for Tax Reform offers the Pledge to all sitting incumbents and candidates running for office. President Bush, 217 Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, 42 U.S. Senators, 9 Governors, four Lieutenant Governors, two Attorneys General, four Secretaries of State, four Treasurers, and more than 1270 state legislators have signed the Pledge.

"For too long, tax-and-spenders have dominated politics in West Virginia," said Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform in Washington, DC. **"These candidates understand that the people of West Virginia deserve better than having their wallets raided and, by signing the Pledge, have chosen to make this important commitment to their constituents."**

The following candidates signed the Pledge on Saturday:

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|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Lisa Thornburg (Audit.) | 10. Christopher Troy Wood (H-13) | 19. Ron Hedrick (H-27) | 28. Brooks (CB) Sharp (H-41) |
| 2. Andrew B. Yost (Comm. of Agr.) | 11. Paula L. Stewart (H-15) | 20. Charlie Friedman (H-28) | 29. Thomas F. Smith (H-43) |
| 3. Jack E. Fincham (S-9) | 12. Dave Litz (H-19) | 21. Charles Minimah (H-31) | 30. Brian Westfall (H-43) |
| 4. Robert C. 'Bob' Johnson (S-11) | 13. Jim Mullins (H-19) | 22. Charles McKown (H-33) | 31. W. Kent Pauley (H-44) |
| 5. Stephen L. Weaver (S-12) | 14. William E. Williams (H-19) | 23. William Salomon (H-35) | 32. Deborah R. Stevens (H-46) |
| 6. Clark S. Barnes (S-15) | 15. Diane Shafer (H-20) | 24. Jim Thompson (H-36) | 33. Ruth Rowan (H-50) |
| 7. Roger D. Madden (H-1) | 16. Shawn R. Spears (H-22) | 25. Mulvie W. Grimes (H-37) | 34. Victor A. Roberts, Jr. (H-53) |
| 8. Robert 'Les' McNinch (H-2) | 17. Mike Lushbaugh (H-23) | 26. Bruce Haddix (H-37) | |
| 9. Jack R. McLane (H-13) | 18. Charles H. Carpenter (H-27) | 27. William Robert Wright (H-40) | |

They join the following incumbents and candidates, who had signed earlier:

Incumbents up for re-elections:

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| 1. Karen Facemyer (S-4) | 5. Mitch B. Carmichael (H-12) | 9. Ann Calvert (H-30) | 13. Larry A. Williams (H-45) |
| 2. Michael Ross (S-15) | 6. Kelli Sobonya (H-16) | 10. Tim Armstead (H-32) | 14. Allen V. Evans (H-48) |
| 3. Otis Leggett (H-7) | 7. Linda Sumner (H-27) | 11. Ronald N. Walters (H-32) | 15. Robert A. Schadler (H-49) |
| 4. Larry Border (H-9) | 8. Tom Louisos (H-29) | 12. Doug Stalnaker (H-38) | 16. John Overington (H-55) |

New Candidates:

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Monroe "Monty" Warner (Gov.) | 7. Cody Lucey (H-4) | 13. Douglas C. Quesinberry (H-24) | 19. Jerome E. Heinemann (H-37) |
| 2. Simon McLure (Gov.) | 8. Edward V. Amos Jr. (H-5) | 14. Thomas (Mike) Porter (H-27) | 20. Derrick W. Love (H-38) |
| 3. Russ Snyder (S-2) | 9. Corbon Siders (H-12) | 15. Arnold W. Ryan (H-27) | 21. Lamont "Mutt" Proctor (H-41) |
| 4. Mark Anthony Reynolds (S-13) | 10. Dennis Barry (H-15) | 16. Wandaleen Kincaid-Schallen (H-29) | 22. James L. Scudere (H-41) |
| 5. David C. Sypolt (S-14) | 11. Matt Sabin (H-17) | 17. Sam J. Argento (H-35) | 23. 19. Robert A. Murto (H-57) |
| 6. Rusty Webb (S-17) | 12. Joan V. Linville (H-18) | 18. Alan R. Balogh (H-37) | |

The following incumbents who are not running this year have also pledged not to raise taxes:

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| 1. Lisa D. Smith (S-4) | 2. Steve Harrison (S-8) | 3. Russ Weeks (S-9) |
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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.

