



Talk Radio Alert

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INTERVIEW ALERT:

American Consumers “Nickel and Dimed” by Tax and Spend Energy Policies

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Yesterday, Congressional Democrats, led by Chairman Ed Markey (D-MA) of the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, once again renewed calls for tax increases on domestic energy production during a show trial featuring executives from five major energy companies.

Chairman Markey continued to display his ignorance of the market by denouncing high gas prices, while at the same time admonishing energy companies for opposing legislation that would impose an \$18 billion tax increase on domestic energy production. In his opening remarks, Markey accused energy companies of “nickel and diming” renewable energy and called on energy companies to invest 10 percent of their profits on renewable energy to help alleviate the burden on American consumers stating, “Americans shouldn’t have to break the bank to fill the tank.”

“Breaking American’s bank accounts is exactly what will happen if Markey and his tax and spend cohorts get their way by slapping on even more taxes to fuel costs,” stated Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform, “Not only will Americans see higher prices at the pump but also a decrease in the value of millions of Americans’ 401(k) plans, retirement plans and pension funds, which are invested in publicly-traded energy companies. Energy legislation that attempts to define and control the market opens the Pandora’s Box of liberal command-and-control policies.”

“I find it ironic that the title of the hearing was ‘Drilling for Answers,’ because drilling is exactly what this Congress has been blocking,” continued Norquist, “While Congressional Democrats call for the need to perpetuate America’s energy independence, they continue to put up road blocks to the surest and quickest route to achieve that goal-- **accelerating and expanding domestic oil and natural gas production by allowing energy exploration in the Gulf of Mexico and ANWR.**”

Harvard-educated and street-smartened by years as a Washington insider, Norquist is your show’s ultimate guest to discuss the state tax policy. His bio can be found at <http://www.ATR.org/staff>. You can find more information about his organization Americans for Tax Reform at www.ATR.org.

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who support tax simplification and oppose all federal and state tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact John Kartch at (202) 785-0266 or by email at jkartch@atr.org.

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