



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

July 28, 2008

Dear Member of Congress,

With President Bush's repeal of the executive ban on offshore drilling, and a flurry of proposed energy bills in both chambers, Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) would like to stress its strong support for lifting the ban on offshore oil drilling and support declaring October 1, 2008 "American Energy Freedom Day."

By repealing this 17-year-old executive order, enacted during a time of low energy costs, President Bush sent a constructive message to the American people that Republicans are taking action to lower energy prices while Democratic policies will only serve to increase prices through higher taxes.

In the weeks since President Bush and Senator McCain publicly called for lifting the federal ban on offshore drilling, this Congress has not held a single hearing to discuss lifting the ban or any other measure to increase domestic production.

However in the wake of Congressional inaction, oil prices continue to fall. At a time when the market is responding favorably to a trend toward decreased energy independence, the only hindrance is a temporary ban on OCS drilling that will expire the end of this fiscal year on October 1st.

Americans for Tax Reform has joined with others in echoing the opposition of the creation of any new moratorium, temporary or for fiscal 2009 that will stand in the way of American prosperity and lower energy prices.

Americans for Tax Reform continues to encourage Congress to follow President Bush's lead and vote to lift the ban on offshore oil drilling so that "American Energy Freedom Day" could come before October 1st.

Sincerely,

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