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## Kansans “KanView” Where Their Tax Dollars Go

*Taxpayer group welcomes launch of Kansas spending transparency website*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Americans for Tax Reform applauds the launch of the KanView web portal, accessible at [www.kansas.gov/kanview/](http://www.kansas.gov/kanview/), which went live on March 1, 2008. The portal provides taxpayers with a clear picture on Kansas state government finance, both on the revenue and expenditure side. The launch of the website implements Rep. Kasha Kelley’s (R-Arkansas City) Taxpayer Transparency Act, which was passed last year.

The Taxpayer Transparency Act was one of five bills passed by state legislatures around the country in 2007 demanding the creation of websites detailing comprehensive information on government expenditures. After breezing through the house, the legislation hit a snag in the senate, where it was double referred. Sen. Tim Huelskamp, who chairs the Taxpayer Protection Caucus, was able to attach it to the budget, and it ultimately passed.

“Congratulations to Rep. Kelley and Sen. Huelskamp – their hard work on behalf of the taxpayer has paid off and taxpayers can now view the fruits of their labor,” said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. “Taxpayers, who foot the bill for any expenditure government makes have been left in the dark for too long. The KanView portal shines a long-missing light on the ways government spends their hard earned tax dollars.”

The effort to empower taxpayers and give them a tool to hold their government more accountable by exposing government expenditures to greater public scrutiny has been sweeping the country since last year. At least 17 states have bills requiring the creation of searchable websites for government expenditures this year. Many states currently looking to implement such a website have been looking to Kansas as they drafted their legislation.

“Thomas Jefferson once said: *‘We might hope to see the finances of the Union as clear and intelligible as a merchant’s books, so that every member of Congress and every man of any mind in the Union should be able to comprehend them, to investigate abuses, and consequently to control them,’*” continued Norquist. “With the launch of KanView, Kansas has just taken a huge leap towards implementing this vision of greater accountability.”

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 John Kartch at (202) 785-0266 or by email at [jkartch@atr.org](mailto:jkartch@atr.org).

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