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More Good News for Louisiana: Tax Cuts!

Freshman governor calls special session to pass tax cuts

WASHINGTON, D.C.- At the request of first-term Governor Bobby Jindal (R), the Louisiana legislature headed back to the Capitol Monday for the start of a 20-day special session to address tax breaks and tuition deductions that are certain to benefit taxpayers across the Bayou State. The regular legislative session was due to begin March 29th, but under the state constitution, tax issues could not be considered at this time.

Gov. Jindal has asked the legislature to focus on tax relief to spur economic growth in the state. On the governor's agenda is the elimination of state taxes on business equipment and utilities, the tax on business debt. Additionally, a 50 percent tuition deduction for families with children enrolled in private school and legislation to protect federal income tax rebates from the state income tax will also be considered.

"In only a few short months, Gov. Jindal has proven that he is absolutely dedicated to the best interests of Louisiana taxpayers," said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **"He is wasting no time in demonstrating that fiscal conservatism is the best and only option for spurring economic growth in the state."**

This is not the first time Gov. Jindal has proven his dedication to the best interests of Louisiana taxpayers. In early January, he issued Executive Order No. BJ 2008 -2 which establishes a number of goals and directs the commissioner of administration to work towards accomplishing these, among them the online reporting of all states grants and contracts, improved access to existing databases, and the creation of an online spending database.

"In today's political climate, 'change' is the buzzword," said Norquist. **"Gov. Jindal is illustrating exactly what kind of change is necessary and best for the hard-working families in Louisiana - opening the state's books up for taxpayer scrutiny, eliminating waste in government, and putting more money back in the pockets of taxpayers. I urge lawmakers and leaders across the country to emulate the example he is setting."**

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

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