



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

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ATR WILL RATE A VOTE TO INCREASE INCOME TAXES TO CUT THE GAS TAX AS A TAXPAYER PROTECTION PLEDGE VIOLATION

Forty-one U.S. Senators have pledged in writing to their constituents and the American people to:

...oppose any net reduction or elimination of [income tax] deductions and credits, unless matched dollar-for-dollar by further reducing tax rates.

This week, Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) has proposed a federal gasoline excise tax holiday. He proposes to pay for this by taking away a corporate income tax deduction from energy companies.

Even if this idea is revenue-neutral within the budget window, it is still a net income tax increase. Under the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, income taxes can only be raised for the purpose of cutting income taxes somewhere else. Therefore, voting for the Durbin Amendment is a Pledge Violation, and Americans for Tax Reform WILL RATE against it in our annual "Hero of the Taxpayer" Congressional scorecard. In addition, anyone voting for the Durbin Amendment (or any other Pledge violation) will be declared ineligible to receive the award for 2008, despite their overall voting record.

ATR strongly supports giving taxpayers a break by cutting or eliminating the gasoline excise tax. However, this cannot be "paid for" by increasing income taxes on families and businesses. If Congress wants to find an offset, they might start by looking at farm bill spending subsidies for millionaires.

ATR WILL RATE A VOTE TO INCREASE NET INCOME TAXES FOR ANY PURPOSE AS A PLEDGE VIOLATION

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