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## Deregulation Spells Victory for Missouri Consumers

*Bill calling for deregulation of VoIP passes handily through state legislature*

WASHINGTON, D.C. –Late Monday evening, the Missouri house of representatives voted to approve House Bill 1779, a bill calling for lower government regulation on Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services. With a 121-26 vote through the state house following an overwhelming 32-1 vote of approval in the state senate, the bill now moves to Gov. Blunt's desk where it awaits his signature.

The effort to deregulate VoIP in Missouri has been long fought. By minimizing government regulation over new technologies such as VoIP, competition will flourish and as a result, consumers will benefit.

“The approval of HB 1779 is a great move toward stemming against the regulation of all industries,” said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. “I applaud the efforts of the legislators who pushed this bill through the legislature and urge them to continue pushing for further deregulation of all industries. When the government's power to pick winners and losers is minimized or eliminated, taxpayers are always the victors.”

*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](mailto:jkartch@atr.org).*

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