



NEWS

WWW.ATR.ORG
www.friendsofatr.blogspot.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: John Kartch
Kelly Cobb
202-785-0266

1 OCTOBER 2008

Doug Smith to Chair Taxpayer Protection Caucus In Maine State Senate

Washington, D.C. – Today, Americans for Tax Reform announced that Senator Douglas M. Smith (R - Piscataquis County) will chair the Taxpayer Protection Caucus in the Maine State Senate. Senator Smith currently serves on the Utilities and Energy and the Natural Resources Committees.

To join the caucus, legislators must be signers of the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, which is a written commitment to their constituents and state residents to “oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes.” With the addition of Sen. Smith, there are now 50 Taxpayer Protection Caucuses in 32 states. Every state (with the exception of unicameral Nebraska) will soon have both a Senate and House caucus consisting of all pledge signers in the legislature.

“Maine taxpayers are looking forward to seeing their voice strengthened in Augusta,” said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. “Under Senator Doug Smith, the caucus will fight for Maine families and businesses who deserve to keep more of their hard earned money.”

The Taxpayer Protection Caucuses provide a single voice on tax issues among pro-taxpayer legislators, and form entire bodies of legislators that believe in the same principle: no new taxes. Considering the budget battles states are facing across the country, taxes continue to be very high on the radar screen of voters and the media. Journalists will be able to go to the chair of the caucus for comments on tax issues.

“Protecting taxpayers should be the first priority of anyone elected to the state legislature,” Norquist added. “Doug Smith understands this important notion and this is why he chose to take the lead in the effort to protect Maine taxpayers’ wallets.”

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) 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.

###