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Maine has the Opportunity to Reject Higher Taxes

Maine Citizens should vote Yes on 1 to Defeat the Dirigo Tax Increase

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On November 4th, 2008, in addition to voting in the Presidential, Senatorial, Congressional, and State races this election, the citizens of Maine will be have the opportunity to vote to reject higher taxes that have been forced upon them. When the people of Maine turn out to vote this November, Americans for Tax Reform encourages them to vote “Yes” on ballot measure 1 in order to reject this tax. If this tax moves forward and is accepted, it will cost the taxpayers of the state nearly 77 million dollars annually.

Just to put the effects of this tax in perspective, a 2-liter bottle of soda that would usually cost \$1 would go up 25% to \$1.25. On top of this excise tax that the government wants to levy on the people, the usual 5% sales tax would be levied. A bottle of soda starting at \$1.05 including sales tax would go up to about \$1.31. The people of Maine have the opportunity to correct this misguided piece of legislation that will, if it is not defeated raise taxes on not only soft drinks, but beer, wine, some juice drinks, flavored water, and health insurance claims.

“At a time when hard working Mainers are struggling to pay bills, Governor Baldacci and friends had the not so bright idea that they would take money from the hardworking taxpayers of Maine and redirect it toward a failing government program,” Norquist said. **“Government does this, they come up with a new program, they watch it fail, then they take the taxpayers’ money to ‘fix it’, this is wrong! They need to be held accountable for their actions.”**

“Dirigo” Health plan was sold to the taxpayers of Maine as a program that would require any additional taxes. Elected officials and bureaucrats did not tell the truth and are now looking to the taxpayers to bail them out.

Norquist continued, **“On November 4th, the voters of Maine should vote Yes on ballot initiative 1, in turn correcting the mistakes of their government representatives and keeping more of their own tax dollars. Simply, money goes further when it is taxed less by the government.”**

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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