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ATR Opposes Missouri Proposition C

Ballot Measure Would Increase Utility Rates and Cost of Living

WASHINGTON D.C. – Today Americans for Tax Reform, a non-profit taxpayer advocacy organization that opposes all tax increases as a matter of principle, officially announced its opposition to the Missouri Clean Energy Initiative, which will appear on the November ballot as Proposition C.

Prop. C, if approved, would require that all Missouri utilities generate at least 15 percent of their electricity from renewable sources such wind, solar, and hydropower by 2021.

“If Prop. C is approved, Show Me State residents can expect higher utility bills, higher taxes, and a higher cost of living,” said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. “Creating a market by forcing people to buy a certain product is simply bad policy. Usage of renewable energy will increase when cost effectiveness becomes competitive with traditional energy sources. Anyone who is serious about promoting viable ‘clean’ energy sources would look to expand nuclear energy. Nuclear energy is glaringly excluded from Prop. C.”

Many utility companies around the country are starting to give consumers the option of paying more for electricity generated from renewable sources if they so choose. Legislation that would impose energy requirements similar to Prop. C has been introduced in the Missouri House and Senate.

“The coercive utopians pushing this government mandate have been unable to get elected officials to sign off on this ill-conceived plan. Now they are trying to dupe Missouri residents into voting for higher utility bills.” added Norquist. “These additional costs would be even more punitive at this time when Missouri families are already reeling from the slowing economy. Missouri taxpayers worked 188 days last year to pay for the cost of their government. Passage of ‘C’ would ensure that future Cost of Government Days come much later in the year for Missouri.”

Americans for Tax Reform 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

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