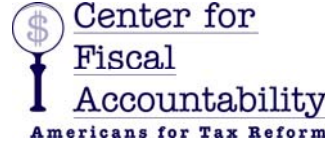




AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President



September 10, 2008

Dear Senator:

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) and our affiliates, the Alliance for Worker Freedom (AWF), the American Shareholders Association (ASA), the Center for Fiscal Accountability (CFA) and the Property Rights Alliance (PRA), and their respective directors endorse Representative Thaddeus McCotter's (R-MI) letter representing the U.S. House Republican's opposition to the Senate's energy proposals.

The current so-called "Gang of Ten/Sixteen" energy proposal has several potentially fatal flaws. **The most glaring of which is the repeal of IRS Sec. 199 which will raise taxes on American energy production by \$30 billion, and which by itself is a Taxpayer Protection Pledge violation.** Sound energy policy should contain fiscally responsible measures that will actually result in lower prices – not penalties to the taxpayer. Why allow room for a tax increase when Americans are already paying so much at the pump?

Additionally, the plan implements command-and-control legislation that attempts to define the market by "selecting" which states can implement OCS drilling and which can't.

Rep. McCotter and all House efforts are drastically undercut by the actions in the Senate to raise the cost of energy on the American people by proposing fiscally irresponsible legislation. At a time with the nation looks upon the recent actions of the House GOP with admiration, the Senate efforts do nothing to address America's energy crisis.

Therefore, we support Rep. McCotter and the efforts of those in the House and urge the "Gang of Ten" to reconsider their proposal.

Onward,

Grover G. Norquist
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cc: All members of the U.S. House of Representative

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