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Monday, May 3, 2010

ATR Opposes Expanding Failed Energy Star Program in House Bill HR 5019

Kansas Senate Ways and Means Committee Passes \$434 Million Tax Package Targeting

Americans for Tax Reform and the Anti-VAT Caucus



From Amir Iljazi on Friday, April 30, 2010 11:20 AM



With [talk becoming ever more increasing](#) on the issue of a [Value-Added Tax](#) (aka, VAT); Americans for Tax Reform has joined with members of the House and Senate to revive the Anti-Vat Caucus, which is solely based on the goal of ensuring that American taxpayers are not burdened with yet another draconian measure to impose taxes. The implications for such a tax would be devastating to an economy that is struggling and to working families all across the country. The Anti-VAT Caucus will fight against any such form of taxation that would not only break the [President's pledge made in New Hampshire](#) that "No family making less than \$250,000 a year will see any form of tax increase," but would further stifle the growth of the economy in a time where jobs, spending, and taxes are on the top of the voters' lists.

[There is so much information about the VAT](#) to be considered, but here are some of the major points, courtesy ATR's Tax Policy Analyst Ryan Ellis:

- VATs don't displace other taxes. In fact, the evidence from Europe shows that other taxes rise as VATs rise. The reason is that more VAT revenue begets more government spending, which creates demand for yet more tax revenue. According to Dan Mitchell of the Cato Institute (who gets his data from the OECD), in 1967 the U.S. and Europe each collected about \$0.27 in taxes for every \$1.00 produced. The U.S. is still collecting that much, but Europe's tax burden has shot up from 27% to over 40%
- Other taxes rose in Europe as the VAT grew. Personal income taxes grew from 7 percent to 11 percent of Europe's GDP. Corporate income taxes grew from 2 percent to 3.5 percent of GDP. Taxes on income and profits grew from 9 percent to 14 percent of Europe's economy. As the VAT grew, so did all the other taxes.
- Americans for Tax Reform Foundation has estimated that if the United States adopted a European-style VAT tax base, every 1 percent point in VAT rate would yield the tax revenue equivalent of 0.4 percent of GDP (or about \$50 billion per year). Even a 1 percent VAT with a European base would be as big as the net tax hike under Obamacare.

ATR has now begun to ask candidates to [join the Anti-Vat Caucus, if elected](#). The follow candidates have already made the promise to join:

- [Rick Barber](#) (AL-02)
- [Vicky Hartzler](#) (MO-04)
- [Tom Graves](#) (GA-09)
- [Martha Roby](#) (AL-02)
- [Susan Bitter Smith](#) (AZ-05)
- [Lawton "Carl" Smith](#) (GA-12)
- [Jim Tracy](#) (TN-06)

Taxpayers

Friday, April 30, 2010

Note to the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids: If Tigers Can Be Smuggled into the US, So Can Cigarettes

The FCC Has Left the Internet Alone for...25 Years and Counting

Nanny Statists Discover Happy Meal Toys Have Magical Powers

Three Cheers for the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland! (PRA Site »)

Support Vitter Amendment to Strike Title 12 and Fannie Mae 2.0

The Millionaire Migration

Americans for Tax Reform and the Anti-VAT Caucus

Counterfeit Parts Could Impair Military Equipment and Weapons (PRA Site »)

CFA Urges Fed Transparency, Supports Bipartisan Amendment (CFA Site »)

New Jersey Would Gain \$2 Billion From Offshore Drilling

Thursday, April 29, 2010

AFL-CIO Throwing in Towel on Card Check

Featured Website: Open Wellington (FL) (CFA Site »)

Washington Income Tax Anything but Fair

SC Now Posts Monthly Charge Card Usage Information (CFA Site »)

Uh-Oh! Top Treasury Official Is Involved in Subprime Mess to Head New Agency?

New Hampshire Would Gain \$29 Million from Offshore Drilling

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

ATR Applauds Governor Lingle's Energy Tax Veto

Strike III for Dodd's Wall Street Bailout – When Will Dems Go Back to Drawing Board?

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Mississippi Would Gain \$17 Million From Offshore Drilling

Dodd Wall Street Bailout Bill Creates Fannie Mae 2.0

The Final Countdown - Dodd Financial Bill Update, Day 3

Kansas Taxpayers are Targeted with Tax Hikes

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Glen Urquhart Signs Taxpayer Protection Pledge in Delaware Congressional Contest

Strike II for Dodd's Wall Street Bailout – Cloture Fails Second Day in a Row

Dodd Bill Violates Consumer Privacy: Gov to Track Americans' Purchases, Share with Corporations

ATR Urges House Financial Services Committee Support for Rep. Garrett Amendments

In addition to these candidates, more than 60 federal elected officials have signed onto the Anti-VAT caucus, you can see the complete list [here](#).

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[The Millionaire Migration](#) - Friday, April 30, 2010 11:36 AM

[New Jersey Would Gain \\$2 Billion From Offshore Drilling](#) - Friday, April 30, 2010 9:30 AM

Comments

This is great work, it should definitely be on the radar screen as a priority for all prospective candidates for federal office.

>> **Edward, MA** Friday, April 30, 2010 4:06 PM

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"Open Wellington" Launches in Florida (CFA Site »)

ATR Files Comments to FCC Opposing Net Neutrality

Baucus Considering Bank Tax and Carried Interest Tax Hike

Wall Street Bailout Update

Obama: Asking About My Tax Pledge is a "Washington Game"

CBO: Millions To Pay Obamacare Tax

FYI, State Income Tax in Washington State is Unconstitutional

Economists Agree: The "Stimulus" Failed

Massachusetts Would Gain \$412 million From Offshore Drilling

Monday, April 26, 2010

Financial Reform Cloture Vote Fails: Back to the Drawing Board

Raise My Taxes!!! (AWF Site »)

Debt Commission Co-Chair Alan Simpson's Anti-Taxpayer Voting Record

ATR Will Rate Against Financial Reform Cloture Vote

Raise My Taxes!!!

Graham Takes Wind Out of Climate Talks, Kerry Presses On - Sign ATR's Energy Petition Above!

Obama to debt commission: Feel free to break my tax pledge

Update: Senator Shelby says Republicans will block reform bill

Taxpayers Will Lose Under Any Dodd-Shelby Financial Bill Compromise

IL Gov. Quinn Continues to Push Unpopular Tax Increases

World IP Day 2010: Celebrating Property Rights Around the Globe (PRA Site »)

Maryland Would Gain \$94 Million From Offshore Drilling

Sunday, April 25, 2010

Gov. Quinn Backpedals on Digital Goods Tax (Stop eTaxes Site »)

Friday, April 23, 2010

Cap and Tax Bad for Government Employee Pensions

The Latest Taxpayer-Funded Boondoggle: The EPA's Video Propaganda Contest

Stovall Witte Signs Taxpayer Protection Pledge in SC-01 Congressional Contest

Brace yourself, you won't believe this...

Institute for Justice Releases New Report on Civil Asset Forfeiture (PRA Site »)

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Value-Added Tax (VAT) Toolkit

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Maine Would Gain \$522 Million From Offshore Drilling

The Next Potential SEIU Head, Anna Burger,

Calls for NLRB to Force Card Check (AWF Site »)

ATR Will Rate Against Cloture on Dodd Financial Reform Bill

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Burger Could be Elected SEIU President by Private Ballot, but Presses Labor Board on Card Check

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New E-Commerce Tax Threatens Privacy Rights

E-Commerce Tax Turns into Privacy Rights Battle (Stop eTaxes Site »)

President on taxes: I had hoped to invest in your future..without asking more of you..but I can't

SC-01 Update: Paul Thurmond Signs the Taxpayer Protection Pledge

Happy Earth Day, A Look at Obama's Failed Anti-Growth Energy Policies

Louisiana Would Gain \$9.858 Billion From Offshore Drilling

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Obama floats a VAT: Admission explains attempt to alter tax pledge

ATR Endorses H.R. 5029, The Economic Freedom Act

Illinois Gov. Quinn Targeting Digital Goods for More Revenue (Stop eTaxes Site »)

A Tax on Energy (i.e. A Tax on Gas, Fruits, Clothing, Computers, etc.) (ASA Site »)

Rep. Oberstar Announces Massive Government Expansion

Illinois Would Gain \$2.612 Billion From Offshore Drilling

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Clarifying ATR's Position on the Georgia Tax Bill

ATR Applauds United GOP Caucus Opposition to Dodd Bill

ATR Urges Opposition to Current Form of Regulatory Reform Bill

White House economic advisor refuses to rule out a VAT

Rich States, Poor States 2010

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