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[Op-Eds](#)
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[All News](#)

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[Economy](#)
[Education](#)
[Environment](#)
[Ethics](#)
[Families](#)
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Speaker Pelosi's New Tax on All Americans? Just Say 'No'

Posted by Kevin Boland on October 20th, 2009

In an [interview](#) on the Charlie Rose show earlier this month, Speaker Pelosi said she was open to enacting a national sales tax in addition to the income tax, stating "I think it's fair [to] look at a value-added tax." A value-added tax, or VAT tax, is a tax levied at "every level of production or service," according to the [Wall Street Journal](#), and would affect every American and every single small business on top of the existing federal income tax.

Why is Speaker Pelosi proposing this new tax now? After all, Democrats are already slated to raise taxes on energy by nearly **\$1800 per family** through a 'cap and trade' national energy tax - and their government takeover of health care contains more than \$820 billion in tax hikes. Moreover, Democrats already voted to raise taxes earlier this year on small businesses and families to the tune of "\$1.5 trillion over the next 10 years," according to an [analysis](#) by the House Budget Committee Republican staff.

Speaker Pelosi's new tax would add yet another burden that families and small businesses would have to face. As Dan Mitchell of the Cato Institute explains in the following video, "the evidence from Europe unambiguously suggests that a VAT will dramatically increase the burden of government. That's good for Washington, but bad for America."



The American people couldn't disagree more with the Speaker. In fact, a [Rasmussen poll](#) released earlier this month found that "67% oppose a national sales tax." Unfortunately, as the [Wall Street Journal](#) editorialized:

The allure of a VAT for politicians is that it applies to every level of production or service, rakes in piles of money, and is largely hidden from those who ultimately pay it-namely, consumers. With a \$9 trillion 10-year budget deficit, \$4 trillion in spending in fiscal 2010 alone, and a \$1 trillion (at a minimum) health-care entitlement in the wings, Mrs. Pelosi knows that not even the revenue from the expiration of the lower Bush tax rates in 2011 will cover the bills. Nearly every European country that has passed national health care has also eventually imposed a VAT, and it's foolish to think the U.S. will be different.

Speaker Pelosi's new tax would hit small businesses particularly hard - and that would have

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- [May 2009](#)
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- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

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- [ACORN](#) (3)
- [boehner](#) (2)
- [Border Security](#) (3)
- [budget](#) (29)
- [Cap and Trade](#) (23)
- [card check](#) (10)
- [census](#) (1)
- [colombia](#) (3)
- [Committee Republicans](#) (6)
- [Congress](#) (3)
- [crime](#) (1)
- [Earmarks](#) (12)
- [economic rescue](#) (4)
- [Economy](#) (33)
- [Education](#) (7)
- [Energy](#) (162)
- [Environment](#) (7)
- [Ethics](#) (19)
- [fairness doctrine](#) (3)
- [Families](#) (9)
- [Fiscal Responsibility](#) (63)
- [gas](#) (106)
- [gas prices](#) (25)
- [General](#) (49)
- [Health Care](#) (28)

an adverse impact on an already poor employment outlook. It's time the Democrats stop trying to tax everything in sight, and free small business men and women to start creating the jobs this economy so desperately needs.

Just 'say no' to Speaker Pelosi's national sales tax.

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- [Jobs](#) (4)
- [Leader Links](#) (6)
- [Life Issues](#) (3)
- [Links](#) (10)
- [Missile Shield](#) (2)
- [pelosi](#) (5)
- [pence](#) (4)
- [Pension Reform](#) (2)
- [Podcast](#) (12)
- [police](#) (1)
- [qik](#) (1)
- [RSS](#) (6)
- [savings](#) (2)
- [School Choice](#) (3)
- [stakeout](#) (3)
- [State Solutions](#) (1)
- [states](#) (3)
- [Stimulus](#) (38)
- [TARP](#) (3)
- [taxes](#) (19)
- [trade](#) (5)
- [Transparency in Government](#) (18)
- [twitter](#) (2)
- [uprising](#) (105)
- [video](#) (14)
- [War on Terror](#) (66)
- [Wasteful Spending](#) (3)
- [Web](#) (8)
- [White House](#) (3)
- [Workforce](#) (7)
- [youtube](#) (2)

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