



# NEWS

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## **Illinois Fact of the Day #3: Rep. Caren Gordon May Stall the Engine of Job Growth**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – **Rep. Caren Gordon has declined several offers to sign the Taxpayer Protection Pledge.** By doing so, she is giving an open invitation to the big spenders to push for higher taxes in the next legislative session.

The options for higher taxes are wide, and may not only affect Illinois taxpayers at the personal level, but also the state's business climate. Currently, Illinois ranks 19<sup>th</sup> in the Small Business Survival Index 2004 issued by the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Council.

**Yet, if the tax burden on businesses and residents were increased, the state might embark on a trail that may be dangerous for the state's economy and fiscal health, by putting small business - the backbone of every state's economy - at risk.**

- ☞ According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, 75% of all new jobs are created by small business – they are the engine of growth.
- ☞ Thanks to President Bush's tax cutting policies, the national economy has picked up steam and has created almost 2 million jobs since August 2003. The positive momentum has carried over into the states.

**Raising taxes would only derail the train of economic recovery, and stall the engine of growth – it should not be an option.**

**Still, Rep. Caren Gordon prefers to leave this option on the table. Her opponent Doug Hayse has committed himself “to oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes.”**

*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 Chris Butler at (202) 785-0266 or by email at [cbutler@atr.org](mailto:cbutler@atr.org).*