



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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Fact of the Day #1: Ryan McMullen Refuses to Make Commitment to Taxpayers

-- Candidate in Oklahoma House District 55 leaves door open for tax increases --

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On November 2, 2004, the voters in Oklahoma's House District 55 will decide who should represent their interests in the state House of Representatives. Their choices: Ryan McMullen (D), and John English (R).

While John English has openly declared his commitment to taxpayers' interests by signing the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, which commits incumbent legislators and candidates 'to oppose and vote against any and all tax increases', Ryan McMullen has refused to make this commitment to his constituency.

"By not signing the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, Ryan McMullen sends a clear message to the hard-working families of Oklahoma," said Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform in Washington, DC. **"The message is that he is open to raising taxes. He is willing to put his constituents' pocketbooks on the line."**

ATR offers the Taxpayer Protection Pledge to all candidates seeking office at the state and federal levels, and also to sitting incumbents. President George W. Bush has signed the Pledge. 42 U.S. senators and 218 members of the U.S. House of Representatives have also signed the Pledge. In signing, they join eight governors, four lieutenant governors, two attorneys general, four secretaries of state, four treasurers, and more than 1325 state legislators.

"The taxpayers of Oklahoma deserve to know who their friends are," Norquist continued. **While John English has chosen to side with taxpayers by signing the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, Ryan McMullen has made clear that he prefers to leave door wide open for future tax increases."**

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.