



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

1920 L Street, NW • Suite 200 • Washington, DC 20036
202.785.0266 • Fax 202.785.0261

NEWS

WWW.ATR.ORG

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MAY 7, 2004**

**CONTACT: Kathryn N. Stockhausen
202-785-0266**

Congressional Candidate Signs Taxpayer Protection Pledge

Brian Hamel (R – Maine) signs the Taxpayer Protection Pledge

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Brian Hamel, a Republican vying for Maine's 2nd Congressional District seat recently signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge sponsored by Americans for Tax Reform (ATR). The Pledge commits signers to "oppose any and all efforts to increase the marginal income tax rates for individuals and/or businesses ... and oppose any net reduction or elimination of deductions and credits, unless matched dollar for dollar by further reducing tax rates."

ATR has offered the Pledge to all candidates for federal office since 1987. To date, President George W. Bush, 42 U.S. senators, and 217 members of the U.S. House of Representatives have signed the Pledge. Additionally, eight Governors and over 1,190 state legislators have signed the Pledge as well.

"America needs leaders who are committed to protecting taxpayers, and signing our Pledge demonstrates that kind of leadership," said Grover Norquist, president of ATR.

"By signing the Pledge, Mr. Hamel demonstrates allegiance to hard-working taxpayers nationwide, as well as dedication to taxpayers in Maine. I applaud Mr. Hamel for the leadership and dedication he showed by signing the Pledge."

"I strongly encourage every candidate for federal and state elective office to sign the Pledge," Norquist continued.

Copies of the Pledge are available at www.ATR.org or by calling (202) 785-0266.

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all tax increases. For further information, contact Kathryn Stockhausen by phone or at kstockhausen@atr.org

-###-