



# NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

15 NOVEMBER 2006

CONTACT: John Kartch  
Elizabeth Karasmeighan  
202-785-0266

## Not Paying Enough in Taxes? One Lawmaker has a Solution for You

*Kentucky could join other states to allow voluntary contributions to government*

Washington, D.C. – Kentucky’s state Representative David Floyd (R-Bardstown) has pre-filed a bill for the 2007 legislative session which proposes the establishment of a Tax Me More Fund in Kentucky. The fund would allow for voluntary contributions from taxpayers who believe they are under-taxed and would require Kentucky’s Department of Revenue to provide an opportunity for taxpayers to make contributions with their income tax payments.

The establishment of a Tax Me More Fund would serve as a means to expose hypocrisy often present in debates over state tax policy. Such voluntary contributory accounts allow pro-taxpayer lawmakers and advocates to challenge big spenders to “walk the walk” by sending more of their money to government coffers. Currently, at least seven other states and the federal government have established similar funds for voluntary tax contributions to state governments.

**“Setting up a Tax Me More Fund is like putting bacteria under a microscope to see how it really behaves,”** said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **“Whenever a tax hike is on the table or a tax cut is being considered, the big spenders inevitably fall back on the argument that taxes are not high enough or that taxpayers are willing to pay more in taxes. One glance through the microscope at how much taxpayers voluntarily fork over to government shows that big spenders are tossing around a diseased argument.”**

Gov. Huckabee (R) of Arkansas established the first Tax Me More Fund in 2001 by executive order. Massachusetts followed by allowing taxpayers to choose whether to pay a 5.3 percent or 5.85 percent income tax rate through their Voluntary Optional Tax Endowment (VOTE). Additionally, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Kansas and Virginia all have provisions which allow for voluntary contributions to state government.

**“I applaud the efforts of Representative Floyd to establish such a fund in Kentucky and hope other states will follow his lead,”** continued Norquist. **“Wiping out the tax hike germs will take creative solutions to keep big spenders from spreading infection further into taxpayers’ wallets. Tax Me More Funds and their sickly low balances are just what the doctor ordered.”**

*For more information on state Tax Me More Funds and for model legislation, visit <http://www.atr.org/state/projects/taxmemore.html>.*

*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 John Kartch at (202) 785-0266 or by email at [jkartch@atr.org](mailto:jkartch@atr.org).*

###