



AMERICANS
for TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

January 24, 2008

Dear Pledge signer,

In light of the upcoming budget debate, I write to applaud you for standing on the side of taxpayers and resisting the call for higher taxes. As you are well aware, the state's overspending problem may be addressed without raising taxes on Kansans.

Despite your efforts to seek spending reform measures to ensure that Kansas taxpayers will not be subject to tax hikes, interest groups have already begun calling for higher taxes. Specifically, a proposal to raise the tobacco tax is already on the table and may soon heat up in the legislature.

While a 50 cent per pack tax increase proposal has already been filed, another dangerous proposal is gaining speed. Kentucky Health Policy Authority officials are asking that as an element of this tax increase legislation, the state tax code be edited to mandate that the rate of the tobacco tax increase with inflation. This is nothing more than a tax increase on auto-pilot.

Higher taxes will deter businesses from thriving in Kentucky. **Higher taxes on consumers will threaten a strong economy and only further disable one that is weak.** Experience shows that tobacco tax increases encourages illegal activities, including tax avoidance, smuggling and buying and selling on the black market.

According to a study by Americans for Tax Reform Foundation, Kansans worked 186 days to pay off their share of the total cost of government spending and regulation last year. Taxpayers are counting on you to keep their tax burden from getting any heavier.

As the debate heats up, I urge you to continue standing on the side of taxpayers and reject all calls for tax increases and enact true spending reform instead. **In light of Kansas's overspending problem, taxpayers are depending on you to tighten the state's fiscal belt rather than look to increase taxpayer burden as a bailout.**

I want to commend your efforts on behalf of Kansas taxpayers. As the session continues, ATR stands ready to assist you in the fight against higher taxes. Please do not hesitate to call on me, or contact our state team, Karri Bragg or Sandra Fabry at 202-785-0266.

Onward,



Grover Norquist

1920 L Street NW

Suite 200

Washington, DC

20036

T: (202) 785-0266

F: (202) 785-0261

www.ATR.org