



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

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President

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Dear Signer of the Taxpayer Protection Pledge,

In light of several tax increase proposals that are currently being floated, I write to urge you to stand up for Kentucky taxpayers and reject any such proposal.

While refusing to provide details on all other components of a plan to raise revenue by nearly \$800 million over two years, house budget leaders have said that a "reasonable" cigarette tax can be expected to be part of their budget plan.

From a taxpayer's perspective, there is no such thing as a "reasonable" tax increase, and as a signer of the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, who has committed to "oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes," you are well aware of that.

Kentuckians, who like most Americans are on a budget, have to live within their means and have seen their cost of living go up significantly in recent months. They are relying on you to make sure that their tax burden does not increase.

During his election campaign, Gov. Beshear publicly stated his view that Kentuckians were already taxed enough. That is why it is all the more disconcerting to taxpayers to now hear that he is now indicating that he would entertain a tax increase.

Any tax increase, regardless of who or what the target is, will drain money from the private sector and out of productive use. With the economy slowing, now is not the time to throw yet another wrench in the gears of growth and productivity.

On behalf of your constituents, I urge you to stand up to the pressures and work towards tightening Kentucky's fiscal belt rather than forcing your constituents to bear yet another additional burden.

Onward,

Grover G. Norquist