



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

LEGISLATIVE ALERT

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RATINGS ALERT

Taxpayer Group Will Rate HR 8

Members of Congress:

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) strongly supports HR 8, “The Death Tax Elimination Act of 2001” and will rate a vote in favor of elimination as a vote in support of taxpayers in our annual congressional ratings.

ATR supports eliminating the “Death Tax” because:

- It taxes the act of death. Taxing the act of death is indefensible families should not have to worry about Uncle Sam reaching into their pockets when they are grieving the loss of a loved one.
- It represents a most painful form of double and sometimes triple taxation. The same dollar is taxed as individual income, corporate income and at the time of death.
- The government should not be supporting the breakup of many small businesses and farms. Current thresholds hurt small business owners and farmers. The existing law, establishing a \$625,000 threshold, does not help these people. Even land and equipment are included in this amount. Often they are forced to sell because they are unable to afford the taxes.
- It is a highly regressive tax. New citizens and some minorities who have not had the luxury of accumulating generational wealth are unfairly targeted. These people are asked to return half of their wealth to the government, simply because they have died. These funds could instead be used to help raise extended family members out of poverty.

We ask for your support in making our nation a better and more prosperous one for each and every American. Supporting HR 8 would do just that by eliminating one of country’s most unfair taxes.

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