



# NEWS

**AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM**

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

**WWW.ATR.ORG**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT: Chad Cowan**  
**202-785-0266**

## **Georgia Legislators Defend Ashcroft**

*Sign resolution calling on Congress to repudiate “unconstitutional religious test”*

**WASHINGTON—Fifty-two members of the Georgia state legislature signed a resolution today calling for the members of the Georgia congressional delegation to “repudiate the unconstitutional religious test applied to John Ashcroft in confirmation hearings before the United States Senate.”**

The resolution went on to say “some members of Congress have attempted to establish a religious test, explaining that, because of his religion, John Ashcroft would be unable to serve as an enforcer of our laws.”

**Article VI of the U.S. Constitution states “no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office of public trust under the United States.”**

Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform, made the following statement:

“These members of the Georgia legislature have joined a growing chorus of state legislatures determined to remind their representatives in Washington they have constituents and must face the consequences of their actions back home.

**“The test applied to Senator Ashcroft in his confirmation hearings amounts to religious profiling and was clearly unconstitutional.** I would hope that Joe Lieberman would play an active role in reigning in those senators attempting to require John Ashcroft to pass a religious test to become U.S. Attorney General.”

ATR will be encouraging state legislators to pass similar resolutions regarding other aspects of President Bush’s agenda throughout the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal and state tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact Chad Cowan at (202) 785-0266 or by email at [ccowan@atr.org](mailto:ccowan@atr.org).

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To receive this by e-mail, fax this to (202)785-0266	Name _____	Email _____
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