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ATR Urges Illinois Legislature to Reject All Tax Hikes *Legislature to reconvene Tuesday to discuss budget*

Washington, D.C. –On Tuesday, June 23, the Illinois legislature will reconvene in Springfield at the request of Gov. Quinn to pass a balanced budget. Since they were not able to pass the budget by the constitutional deadline, they are now required to have a three-fifths supermajority in the special session in order to pass the budget. Ever since the regular session ended, Governor Quinn has continued pushing for a 50 percent hike in the income tax in an attempt to balance out a nearly 12 billion dollar spending overage.

The people of Illinois cannot afford another tax increase, especially right now, argues Americans for Tax Reform (ATR). Over the last 11 years the taxpayers of Illinois have seen over 60 percent growth in government spending. Taxpayers are calling for this upcoming session to focus on reforms that reduce wasteful spending and streamline government rather than seeking more revenue from the taxpayers of the state.

“I urge the legislature to reject any tax increase that is put in front of them as they come back into session Tuesday,” said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **“There is never a good time for tax increases, but this is especially an awful time to be taking more money out of the pockets of hardworking Illinoisans.”**

Americans for Tax Reform opposes any tax increase that would be offered whether it be Gov. Quinn’s massive income tax increase, a scaled down compromise, or otherwise. Any tax increase would be devastating. In order to revitalize the Illinois economy, the Governor and legislature need to be finding ways to cut taxes and lift the burden from the taxpayers’ backs rather than punishing them further.

“The state of Illinois clearly has an overspending problem, despite the attempts by Governor Quinn and others to say otherwise. The families and businesses of Illinois do not need to cough up over \$3 billion in new revenue in order to satisfy the government’s oversized appetite.”

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) 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.

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