



AMERICANS
for TAX REFORM

May 18, 2018

To: Members of the North Carolina General Assembly

From: Americans for Tax Reform

Re: 2018 Short Session

Dear Senator,

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) and our supporters across North Carolina, I urge you to utilize the recently convened 2018 short session to build upon the General Assembly's impressive record of reform on tax, regulatory, education, and other policy matters.

By building up the largest rainy day fund in state history and keeping the trajectory of spending below the rate of population growth and inflation – all while enacting tax reform that has allowed individuals, families, and employers across the state to keep billions of dollars in hard-earned income that would have gone to state coffers under the old state tax code – North Carolina has become a national model in recent years for good governance and pro-growth tax reform.

However, I urge lawmakers to not rest on their laurels. Instead, I implore lawmakers in Raleigh to utilize the recently convened short session to enact constitutional and statutory safeguards that will protect North Carolina taxpayers well into the future, long after you and your colleagues have retired.

The best way to do this is to refer two constitutional amendments to the November ballot for voters to decide: one that would cap state spending at the rate of population growth and inflation, the other that would require a two-thirds supermajority vote by the General Assembly in order to enact a tax hike.

Gov. Roy Cooper is already proposing to undo some of the pro-growth tax relief you and your colleagues have worked so hard to enact. Fortunately, Gov. Cooper does not have a legislative majority that will permit him to sign the tax hike he desires into law, but that might not always be the case. As such, it's imperative that you and your colleagues take action now to protect North Carolina taxpayers from Gov. Cooper's high tax, high spending plans, as well as those of younger tax hiking politicians who will take office in North Carolina some day in the future.

When it comes to innovative, pro-taxpayer policy reforms, not one of the other 49 states can hold a candle to what you and your colleagues have

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accomplished in North Carolina in recent years. 2018 is about locking in those policy victories and ensuring that this progress can not be clawed back by future, less taxpayer friendly legislatures and governors.

I thank you for your public service and your leadership. If you have any questions or if ATR can be of assistance, don't hesitate to contact me or Patrick Gleason, ATR's vice president of state affairs, at pgleason@atr.org or 202-785-0266.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'GN', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Grover Norquist
President
Americans for Tax Reform