



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

LEGISLATIVE ALERT

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AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM MAY KEY VOTE S. 276 – WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY REVISION ACT OF 2005

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) may key vote S. 276 in our annual congressional ratings. Americans for Tax Reform strongly opposes S. 276 because of the current maintenance backlog in our national parks.

The measure authorizes the federal government to purchase over 5,900 acres of private land and another 80 acres of Bureau of Land Management land.

The Department of the Interior testified before Congress in the 108th and 107th Congresses on identical bills (S. 425, S. 2788), that the Administration “does not support” the Wind Cave bill, because of the President's “commitment to eliminate the deferred maintenance backlog in our national parks [and] need[s] to continue to focus our resources on taking care of existing areas in the National Park System.”

This measure is an unwarranted land grab by the federal government. Following the *Kelo* decision, the last business Congress should be in is the purchasing of private lands for public use below market value. And since the measure does not authorize a specific dollar amount, it is now very viable that this property will cost the taxpayers even more than originally forecasted.

This is an expense that is not in the best interest of private property owners and taxpayers.

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