



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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PRESIDENT

Taxpayer Group WILL RATE a VOTE FOR DeMint Amendment to S.1 on Paycheck Protection

Over the next several days, the Senate will be considering S.1, a bill which purports to improve ethics and tighten lobbying rules. In point of fact, S.1 is a bad bill which censors grassroots activism, barely addresses the real culture of corruption (government spending) and treats opponents of the new liberal majority far more harshly than that new majority's friends.

Thankfully, the Senate has an opportunity to vote on an amendment to make this a much better bill. Senator Jim DeMint (R-SC) has offered an amendment that would prevent union bosses from using union dues to lobby Congress without the prior, separate, written consent of the union member. **Unions should not be able to collect dues by force and then lobby without consent.**

This omission from the original text of S.1 is callous and unfair. Requiring unions to get consent for lobbying will add needed transparency and accountability so unions accurately represent the interests of their members. In fact, a recent poll found that four in ten Americans believe union bosses represent their own interests, not the interests of their membership. The American people are right. The same polls show that rank-and-file union members shop at Wal-Mart, want a Social Security personal account, oppose gay marriage, and even support free trade—all positions contrary to what labor bosses have been using hard-earned dues money to lobby for.

ATR will rate a vote on the Demint “paycheck protection” amendment to S.1.

ATR URGES A VOTE FOR THE DEMINT AMENDMENT TO S.1