



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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NEWS

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Minnesotans Reject Exploitation of Bridge Tragedy

Polling data reveals Minnesotans oppose gas tax increase

Washington, D.C. – In the wake of the devastating collapse of the I-35 Highway Bridge in Minnesota, some politicians have attempted to exploit this tragedy.

Before the collapsed roadway had been cleared in Minneapolis, before casualties had been confirmed and before a cause for the accident had been determined, a number of journalists and lawmakers across the country began demanding a fuel tax increase.

For a list of lawmakers and journalists who cried out in favor of a gas tax hike in the dark hours following the bridge collapse, click here: http://www.atr.org/content/pdf/2007/aug/081707ot-gastax_prmtrs.pdf

Immediately following the repeated calls for a gas tax hike, polling data on the favorability of such a tax increase has begun to surface. According to a poll conducted by Survey USA in coordination with KSTP-TV of Minneapolis and WDIO-TV of Duluth, **Minnesota taxpayers do NOT favor a tax increase at this time.**

According to the poll of more than 500 residents, 57 percent oppose a gasoline tax increase as a funding source to pay for the “improvement of roads and bridges.”

Access the entire poll here: <http://kstp.com/kstpImages/PollPrint.pdf>

The majority has spoken. Minnesota taxpayers will not accept the exploitation of tragedy as an excuse to raise their taxes.

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal, state and local tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact John Kartch at (202) 785-0266 or at jkartch@atr.org.

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