



# NEWS

## AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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## 2005 Friends of the Taxpayer

*Taxpayer Advocacy Group names friends and enemies of the taxpayer for 2005*

WASHINGTON, DC – Americans for Tax Reform today released its 2005 Friend/Enemy of the Taxpayer Roll Call.

The following people were awarded “Friend of the Taxpayer”:

**JAN: IN State Rep. Jeff Espich** – *for taking tax increases off the table as an option to balance Indiana’s budget*

**FEB: FL State Pledge signers** – *for their consistent year-long opposition to higher taxes.*

**MAR: MS State Sen. Alan Nunnelee** – *for single-handedly killing a tax increase by not allowing it for a vote in committee.*

**APR: MS Gov. Haley Barbour** – *for declaring early on that he would veto any tax increase, thereby shoring up support for his pro-taxpayer stance in the Senate.*

**MAY: IL State Sen. Peter Roskam** – *for taking the lead in derailing HB 755, a huge tax increase.*

**JUN: OK’s pro-taxpayer legislators** – *for passing the biggest tax cut in the history of the state.*

**JUL: KS State Sen. Tim Huelskamp** - *for his efforts to defeat tax hikes and his work to pass an amendment curbing the court’s power to legislate from the bench.*

**AUG: MN State Rep. Phil Krinkie** – *for fighting the governor’s cigarette tax increase, and resigning from the conference committee out of principle.*

**SEP: OK State Rep. Thad Balkman** – *for leading the charge against the gas tax increase, which was rejected by a vote of the people at a margin of 87% to 13%.*

**OCT: MI’s pro-taxpayer representatives** – *for passing a \$1 billion tax cut package to jumpstart the sluggish economy.*

**NOV: ME taxpayer activist Mary Adams** – *for collecting enough signatures to place a TABOR-style tax and expenditure limitation on the 2006 ME ballot.*

**DEC: OK State Sen. Randy Brogdon** – *for collecting enough signatures to place a TABOR-style tax and expenditure limitation on the 2006 OK ballot.*

**“All these people have one thing in common,”** said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform in Washington, DC. **“They have displayed great leadership in protecting taxpayers’ interests, and their efforts are worthy of the “Friend of the Taxpayer Award.”**

To see the 2005 “Enemies of the Taxpayer”, please visit: <http://www.ATR.org/pledge/heroesandenemies/index.html>.

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal, state and local tax increases.  
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