



NEWS

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National Taxpayer Advocate Group Names Roskam Hero of the Taxpayers

Sen. Roskam plays an essential role in the failure of an Illinois tax increase.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Last week, HB-755, a bill that threatened to raise taxes, was pulled from the Senate due to lack of support. Sen. Peter Roskam (R-48) was vital to the bill's failure, starting the "Roskam Anti-Tax Team" which produced statewide media attention.

After receiving incessant emails and faxes which criticized the bill's shortcomings and brought to light the economic ramifications of the tax increases, Sen. James Meeks, the bill's original sponsor, pulled the bill. Roskam's leadership and commitment to anti-tax efforts were critical to the withdrawal.

"Sen. Peter Roskam is a true hero to the taxpayers," said taxpayer advocate Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **"He has signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge and has stuck by his word time and again to defend Illinois from tax increases. The government needs more Peter Roskams, for the sake of American families."**

HB-755 would have raised income taxes and corporate taxes by 66%, and eliminated business tax credits. The bill attempted to justify this tax increase by giving taxpayers a 30% rebate of the education portion of the local property tax. According to Illinois-STAMP, the bill would have cost Illinois more than 110,000 jobs.

"The small education property tax rebate would have been far less than the large increases in income taxes. Income taxes are particularly damaging to families and to the economy," continued Norquist. **"Income tax hikes of 66% would severely hurt families, and would have had a particularly forceful blow on companies. Illinois' economy depends on its industry; if a corporate tax increase of that magnitude had been passed, many companies would have been hard pressed for reasons to keep their businesses in the state."**

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all tax increases. For further information, contact Chris Butler by phone or at cbutler@atr.org.

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