

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY
BOARD
ON FEDERAL TAX REFORM

727 Kings Bench Drive
Hartwell, Georgia 30643
January 20, 2005

2005 MAR -8 P 2: 58

The Honorable Senator Connie Mack

Dear Senator Mack:

This letter is to request your assistance in putting before your new commission a proposed national tax plan, which is described in the attached manuscript.

But first, let me congratulate you on your recent appointment by President Bush to co-chair a national commission to investigate the need for any fundamental overhaul or other changes to our tax system. I personally believe this need is very great, and that you and Senator Breaux are two of the best choices our President could have made.

I originally conceived the manuscript in the late-1990's. Two significant new provisions were added last year. **The essay is 78 pages and – unfortunately – a rather dry, technical “read”.** **However its essence is pretty well contained in only 18 pages, or pages 10 – 27.** Also important is the discussion on consumer prices from the bottom of page 55 through the middle of page 59.

This plan has two components that would apply to everyone, and a third part applicable to only our most economically advantaged individuals and organizations. **It is simple to understand, distributes decision-making power, and produces an almost uniformly proportioned tax burden (see the “example” chart on page 7) from the poorest to the richest of our citizens.** At the lowest end of the economic spectrum it provides for a “refund” (similar to today's earned income credit concept), and its national sales tax component is very much like the “Fair Tax” plan that my previous representative – Congressman Linder - has had before the House of Representatives for several years. My current representative – Congressman Norwood is also a co-sponsor in the House and his staff (and I believe he) has reviewed my essay.

No doubt, adoption of this plan would constitute a major reform. For that I can only suggest a quote from your previous fellow Senator – The Honorable Bill Bradley. On page 92 of his book, Time Present, Time Past, he said, “In the Senate, I found that big reform is as easy as small reform”. I would also say that it seems to me that a large number of Americans would agree that this plan would be as fair to all as possible.

Finally, if you would consider me as someone who would like to work with you and Senator Breaux and your staffs on your study, I would be very pleased to volunteer to do so. For that purpose, an updated resume is also attached.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Savage

Attachments

Robert L. Savage

Objective Utilize my past experiences and education, preferably on a part-time basis, in ways that will contribute to my community and personal goals.

Experience 1991-2004 Arksel, Inc. Dunwoody/Hartwell, GA

Small Business Owner

- Co-owned and operated/managed (with my wife) a very successful specialty toy store (The Toy School) with annual sales of up to \$500 thousand.
- Store awarded Atlanta Magazine's "Best Toy Store in Atlanta" for 1994, plus two Playthings Magazine International Awards in 1991 and 1992.
- Developed and grew our currently ongoing "Toy School Corner" concept for small town stores starting about 1995.

1977-1991 BellSouth Atlanta, GA

Division Staff Manager/Operations Manager/Director - Economic and Pricing Analyses

- Managed BellSouth's Pricing and Cost of Service analysis organizations for Southern Bell (FL, GA, NC, and SC) and South Central Bell (AL, KY, LA, MS, and TN).
- Testified successfully before Public Service Commissions of FL, GA, NC, and SC in more than 30 general rate increase hearings/dockets; and managed the implementation of hundreds of thousands of price changes resulting in hundreds of millions of increased revenue dollars.
- Planned and managed my organization's (and others) divestiture from AT&T including divisions of personnel, assets and budgets; and set up and ran BellSouth's first nine-state combined staff following divestiture of the Bell System.

1976-1977 AT&T New York, NY/Basking Ridge, NJ

Division Manager

- Developed and recommended pricing plans for the Bell System's 23 Operating Telephone Companies nationwide.

1963-1976 Southern Bell Orlando/Cocoa/J'ville/Miami, FL

District Marketing Manager/District Rates Manager

- Account Manager for Southern Bell to NASA at Kennedy Space Center during NASA's Apollo Moon Space Program (1967 - 1969).
- Managed commercial and data communications sales in Central Florida; and ETV (remote classrooms) for the U of FL Genesys system.
- Developed and implemented pricing plans for all of Florida.

1959 - 1963 U. S. Navy Washington, DC
Lieutenant, USN

- Engineer and Shipyard Liaison assigned to USN Nuclear Submarine program under VADM H. G. Rickover (USAEC Naval Reactors Branch and USN Bureau of Ships, Nuclear Power Division).

Education

1955 - 1959 Auburn University (API) Auburn, AL

- BSEE - Electrical Engineering (Communications Option)
- Graduated with Honors
- Executive Officer of NROTC Battalion; Student President of the School of Engineering; Captain of Steerage (NROTC Honorary); Omicron Delta Kappa (University Service Honorary).

1967 - 1969 Rollins College Winter Park, FL

- MCS - Business Administration
- Completed via evening and night classes.

Interests

Family, Small Business Ownership, Writing, Travel. Current activities and memberships include:

- Hartwell First Baptist Church
- Hartwell American Legion Post 109
- Hartwell Rotary Club
- Volunteer Teacher, Hart County Adult Learning Center.