

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY
PANEL
ON FEDERAL TAX REFORM

THE FORTESCUE FLAT TAX

03/24/05

2005 APR 27 A 11: 19

No Income , Sales or License taxes permitted, whether Federal, State or local. No Import or Export taxes permitted. No Estate, Social Security or Medicare taxes permitted, whether Federal , State or local.

What is permitted:

1. All State Local Political Subdivisions, including Cities and Counties, and the District of Columbia: A flat rate tax on the assessed value of all real estate with no exemptions or exclusions except for property owned by the locality.
2. All States, the U.S. and the District of Columbia may collect an annual flat rate, non-discriminatory tax, with no exemptions or exclusions, on the value of all assets owned by individuals, as of 12/31, as certified by a local CPA.
3. Social Security and Medicare benefit payments will continue to be paid to or for those presently receiving them. All other individuals will receive a Federal Bond (4%) covering what that individual had previously paid for Social Security or Medicare taxes.

The purpose and objective of the FFT is to increase Individual Political Responsibility and Individual Economic Opportunity and save Billions in costs and pork..

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LETTER TO ALL STATE LEGISLATORS

Ladies and Gentlemen: *State Legislators* have the power (Art. V, U.S. Constitution) to reverse erroneous Supreme Court opinions granting improper, unlimited and unintended powers to Congressmen and to fulfill the prediction of James Madison that:

*"*** the State legislatures will jealously and closely watch the operations of this Government, and be able to resist with more affect every assumption of power, than any other power on earth can do; and that the greatest opponents to a Federal Government admit the State Legislatures to be the sure guardians of the peoples liberty"*

However, a leading opponent to ratification of the U.S. Constitution, *Patrick Henry*, did not agree. He predicted "*a great consolidated government*" and he said with reference to Art. V: "*The way to amendment is shut*" and "*It is, sir, a most fearful situation, when the most contemptible minority can prevent the alteration of the most oppressive government*". See Elliot's Debates, Vol III, J.P. Lippincott, pp49,50

To date, the States have never passed a U.S. Constitutional Amendment which they, alone, and not Congress proposed. Will they ever? Will the 9000+ State Legislators wake up and support *HJRES 93*, proposed by that true Patrick Henry Patriot, the Hon. Virgil H. Goode, Jr., a member of the US Congress from the fifth district of Virginia.

The *New York Herald* of March 19, 1861, wrote:

The new Constitution (of the Confederate States) is the Constitution of the United States with various modifications and some very important and most desirable improvements. We are free to say that the invaluable reforms enumerated therein should be adopted by the United States, with or without reunion of the seceded States, as soon as possible".

Among those important reforms were: The elimination of the General Welfare Clause, a line-item veto, a six year single term for the President, who could not be re-elected, and that "Every law, resolution have the force of law, shall relate to but one subject and that shall be expressed in the title"

Was it Alexis DeTocqueville who said: "*The ever increasing power of a centralized authority will lead a race of men who would trample on kings to bend obsequiously to the dictates of a mere clerk*"?

It is my hope, with the help of the Internet, that if the State Legislators do not get this message, the American people will and they will compel their State Legislators to act now.

Fortescue W. Hopkins,

TWD
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Fortescue W Hopkins

From: Fortescue W Hopkins <fhopkins@swva.net>
 To: <president@whitehouse.gov>
 Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2001 6:24 PM
 Subject: How to Make Dubya a Winner? The Flat Tax or TWD?

Dear Mr. President:

In his article in the Wall St. Journal, May 31, 2001, Arthur B. Laffer stated:

"For Mr. Bush a true flat tax would be a great legacy to leave the American people. While the idea is anything but passing fancy, it has yet to be debated center stage. Whether he succeeds in actually getting legislation passed is one thing. The bigger point is that being the champion of a true flat tax will make him come out a winner."

The *REVENUE LOSS ESTIMATES FOR "TAX EXPENDITURES" BY FUNCTION* amounted to \$212.371 billion in 1982(See TAX NOTES, 2/15/82, p.422) and \$646.689 billion for 2001(See p. 111, ANALYTICAL PERSPECTIVES, BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, Fiscal Year 2001).

In 1982, I testified before the Senate Finance Committee in favor of a *"true flat-rate personal income tax"*. The term *"flat-tax"* has been exhaustively used , abused and examined for the past 19 years. I recommend a different approach. I believe that *being the champion of "TWD". TAXATION WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION* would have a far more convincing appeal to the "grass roots of America":

Therefore, I recommend that you propose 2 very simple Constitutional Amendments:

1. The Provisions of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States shall apply not only to The States but, also, to the government of the United States of America.

2. Congress shall make no tax law or other required payment that is, in the slightest degree, discriminatory or intended to achieve a non-revenue related objective.

Also, I recommend that you support HJRES 93, proposed by the Hon. Virgil H. Goode, Jr.