



NEWS

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Representative John Culberson Named "Hero of the Taxpayer"

Nation's leading taxpayer advocacy group presents John Culberson with taxpayer-friendly award based on key votes in 2005

WASHINGTON—Representative John Culberson was honored today by Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) with its annual "Hero of the Taxpayer" award at a ceremony in the U.S. Capitol. The taxpayer advocacy organization presents the awards to members of both houses of Congress who vote with taxpayers on 85 percent or more of the issues tracked by ATR as important to taxpayers.

"These key votes were the most critical for taxpayers in the first session of the 109th Congress," said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform and prominent D.C.-based activist. **"Looking at these votes, taxpayers back home can tell if they have a friend or an enemy in Washington. As far as John Culberson is concerned, they have a friend."**

In addition to votes on taxes, ATR also rated votes on free trade, spending control, and property rights. The taxpayer group double-rated a vote on the passage of the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), which opened new markets for U.S. goods and removed tariffs and barriers on exports. In the Senate, ATR double-rated a vote on the Deficit Reduction Act.

"During election season, every candidate is apt to allege that he or she will be a friend of taxpayers once in Washington," Norquist said. **"But the proof is in their votes. Constituents deserve to know who has worked for taxpayers' interests, and not the special interests. Representative John Culberson is squarely on the side of taxpayers, and Americans for Tax Reform offers thanks and congratulations."**

ATR counts its "Taxpayer Protection Pledge" as two votes in this annual rating. The Pledge is a written promise offered to every incumbent and candidate opposing "any and all tax increases." To date, the President, 223 members of the House of Representatives (including Congressman Culberson) and 47 Senators have signed the Pledge.

To see a list of members' ratings, visit <http://www.ATR.org/national/ratings/index.html>.

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

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