



TAX ACTION ALERT

IOWANS FOR TAX RELIEF, Box 747, Muscatine, Iowa 52761
Website: www.taxrelief.org

563-288-3600 or 877-913-3600
Fax: 563-264-2413

To Our Members:

No. 124

December 27, 2007

Iowa Democrats and Republicans to Hold First in the Nation Caucuses on Thursday, January 3, 2008. Bring a Pro-Taxpayer Resolution to your Caucus!

On the evening of Thursday, January 3, 2008 Iowans will once again have the honor and privilege to hold the nation's first precinct caucuses and begin the process of nominating candidates to lead their party in next year's general election for President of the United States.

As Iowans, we have the opportunity to meet and evaluate candidates in an exceptionally personal environment. With that privilege comes responsibility. And that responsibility--for those who affiliate themselves with the Democratic or Republican parties--is to attend our caucuses and participate in this vital process.

Included in this Tax Action Alert is information you might find helpful as you prepare to attend your own local precinct caucus.

- 1) Below you will find information from the Republican and Democratic parties specific to their caucus process for January 3.
- 2) On the next page you will find two proposed planks you can use at your precinct caucus for consideration as part of your party's platform process.
- 3) On the separate insert you will find a review of the tax positions of the six candidates who participated in the Iowans for Tax Relief / Iowa Christian Alliance Presidential Candidates Forum held on June 30, 2007.

It is our hope you will attend your precinct caucus and use it as a grassroots opportunity to promote a pro-taxpayer agenda within your political party.

Iowa Democratic Party

Precinct Caucuses: Thursday, January 3, 2008.

Call to order at 6:30 p.m.

Viability groups for presidential preferences will begin forming no earlier than 7 p.m.

Contact number for questions: 515-244-7292

Web resource center can be found at: www.iowafirstcaucus.org.

Web resources include general caucus guide, a sample agenda, a list of caucus locations, and a form for proposing resolutions for the party platform.

Republican Party of Iowa

Precinct Caucuses: Thursday, January 3, 2008.

Caucus begins at 7 p.m.

The presidential preference straw poll will be conducted very early on caucus evening.

Contact number for questions: 515-282-8105

2008 Caucus Resource Guide can be found at: www.iowagop.net and clicking on the "CAUCUSES" tab.

An interactive map of county caucus contacts and locations is available on the internet at: www.iowagop.net/countycontacts.asp.

Pro-Taxpayer Resolutions: Use these examples to promote pro-taxpayer policy in your party's platform!

Peoples' Right to Vote Amendment

WHEREAS, the Iowa Constitution embodies our basic human rights as citizens of the State of Iowa and protects us from potential abuses of government power.

WHEREAS, the Iowa Constitution currently contains no limit on the government's ability to tax our income or confiscate our property.

WHEREAS, governments at all levels are consuming a larger and larger share of the people's personal income over time and use these resources to continually expand the size and scope of government.

WHEREAS, many studies show rising taxes have a negative impact on economic development and hinder job creation.

WHEREAS, the people of Iowa need a stronger voice in the decision of whether or not to raise state taxes on Iowa families and businesses.

Therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, that the Republican Party of Iowa / Iowa Democratic Party supports passage of the **Peoples' Right to Vote Amendment**, a proposed amendment to the Iowa Constitution that would require a vote of the people to ratify large tax increases before they can take effect.

Be it further **RESOLVED**, that our elected representatives in the Iowa House and Senate will work and vote to submit the **Peoples' Right to Vote Amendment** to the people of Iowa for final ratification.

Protect Federal Deductibility

WHEREAS, Iowa's tax code currently provides Iowans with the right to fully deduct the amount they pay in federal income taxes on their Iowa income tax returns.

WHEREAS, this tax fairness principle is commonly referred to as federal deductibility.

WHEREAS, federal deductibility prevents Iowans from having to pay a state tax on money they use to pay a federal tax, money they never get to see or use.

WHEREAS, federal deductibility is for most Iowans one of their two highest deductions and, for those who do not own their own home, is their single largest state tax deduction.

WHEREAS, most attempts to repeal federal deductibility in return for lower tax rates have contained no long term protection from future efforts to raise state income tax rates on this much broader income base.

Therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, that the Iowa Democratic Party / Republican Party of Iowa supports the ability of Iowans to fully deduct the amount they pay in federal income taxes on their Iowa income tax return and opposes any attempt to impose a state tax on money used solely to pay a federal tax.

Be it further **RESOLVED**, that our elected representatives in the Iowa House and Senate will work and vote to protect federal deductibility and maintain this fundamental principle of tax fairness in the Iowa tax code.

Support for both resolutions is bi-partisan!

Polling: Peoples' Right to Vote Amendment

Republicans: 63% support
Democrats: 63% support
No Party: 65% support

9/7-9, 2003 (+/-4.3% margin of error)

Polling: Keeping Federal Deductibility

Republicans: 78% support
Democrats: 78% support
No Party: 73% support

1/3-4, 2007 (+/-4.3% margin of error)

2008 Iowa Caucuses: Your Personal Action Checklist!

- PLAN TO ATTEND YOUR LOCAL CAUCUS.** Mark your calendar for Thursday night, January 3, 2008 and make plans to attend your party's local precinct caucus.
- SUBMIT PRO-TAXPAYER RESOLUTIONS TO YOUR PARTY PLATFORM.** We have provided two sample resolutions for you to use. Feel free to develop and propose additional pro-taxpayer resolutions that are high priorities for you. You can download and print the above resolutions by going to our website at: www.taxrelief.org.
- LEARN THE TAXPAYER POSITIONS OF THE CANDIDATES.** We have enclosed a summary of the responses of those candidates who attended our forum. You can learn more about where all the candidates stand on important federal tax issues by visiting the websites of National Taxpayers Union, www.ntu.org, Americans for Fair Taxation, www.fairtax.org, and Vote USA.org, www.vote-usa.org.