



URGENT: Federal Deductibility is Under Assault!
This Monday Lawmakers to Vote on Ending Your Income Tax Deduction of Federal Taxes
Contact Legislators Immediately!

On Thursday, March 26, Iowa Senate and House Democrats unveiled their so-called tax reform plan which **eliminates federal deductibility**. House Study Bill 284 **will force you to pay a tax on a tax** and Legislative Democrats announced this proposal will be voted on next week.

Iowans for Tax Relief President, Ed Failor, Jr. released a statement today saying, "Repeal of federal deductibility is bad for Iowa. Paying a tax on a tax flies in the face of common sense Iowa values and is simply unfair." (To read the full statement, visit the Press Releases page on the Iowans for Tax Relief website at: <http://www.taxrelief.org/articles>.)

We need your help TODAY! **House Study Bill 284 eliminates federal deductibility and will be voted on in the House Ways and Means Committee Monday, March 30.** Please contact the committee members NOW! These lawmakers need to hear your extreme opposition to paying a tax on a tax.

These are the key Representatives to contact **IMMEDIATELY**:

Rep. Paul Shomshor (D-Council Bluffs)	Rep. Linda Miller (R-Bettendorf)
Rep. Tyler Olson (D-Cedar Rapids)	Rep. Donovan Olson (D-Boone)
Rep. Tom Sands (R-Columbus Junction)	Rep. Janet Petersen (D-Des Moines)
Rep. Paul Bell (D-Newton)	Rep. Dawn Pettengill (R-Mount Auburn)
Rep. Polly Bukta (D-Clinton)	Rep. Michael Reasoner (D-Creston)
Rep. Greg Forristall (R-Macedonia)	Rep. Sharon Steckman (D-Mason City)
Rep. Marcella Frevert (D-Emmetsburg)	Rep. Doug Struyk (R-Council Bluffs)
Rep. Pat Grassley (R-New Hartford)	Rep. Roger Thomas (D-Elkader)
Rep. Chris Hagenow (R-Windsor Heights)	Rep. Nick Wagner (R-Marion)
Rep. Erik Hlland (R-Grimes)	Rep. Roger Wendt (D-Sioux City)
Rep. Charles Isenhardt (D-Dubuque)	Rep. Nathan Willems (D-Lisbon)
Rep. Jeff Kaufmann (R-Wilton)	Rep. Matt Windschitl (R-Missouri Valley)
Rep. Doris Kelley (D-Waterloo)	

How to Contact Legislators on the Ways and Means Committee:

Phone: Call the above Representatives at 515-281-3221, and leave a message. The message is, "No tax on a tax! It is not fair to pay taxes on dollars I send to the federal government. Please protect federal deductibility. Vote 'NO' on HSB 284."

Email: You can find the email addresses of the House Ways and Means Committee members online on the Iowans for Tax Relief website at: http://www.taxrelief.org/pages/hwm_committee. Use the same message, "No tax on a tax! It is not fair to pay taxes on dollars I send to the federal government. Please protect federal deductibility. Vote 'NO' on HSB 284."

Iowans for Tax Relief will continue to fight for you, the taxpayer, and protect this deduction. While your ITR Lobbying Team is your voice at the Capitol, your voice with Legislators further resonates with them. We need your help **TODAY** to send a message to the Iowa Legislature to keep federal deductibility.

Please also contact your local Senator and Representative. Your efforts are critical to stopping this measure from advancing further.

How to contact your Senator and Representative:

Phone: You can call the Senate Switchboard at 515-281-3371 and the House Switchboard at 515-281-3221 and leave a message for your Senator and Representative. The message is, “No tax on a tax! It is not fair to pay taxes on dollars I send to the federal government. Please protect federal deductibility.”

Email: You can also email your Senator and Representative using the same message. To find your Senator’s and Representative’s email address, visit the “Legislator Lookup” feature on the ITR website at: <http://www.taxrelief.org/legislators>.

Federal deductibility has been an important issue to Iowans for Tax Relief because this tax deduction saves you from paying a tax on a tax. In the past, we have beaten back efforts to eliminate federal deductibility, and we will continue to fight for every Iowan to deduct taxes paid to the IRS.

Our Message:

- Federal deductibility is an important Iowa issue.
- It is not fair to pay a tax on a tax. Iowans should NOT pay an income tax on money they have already been required to pay to the IRS – money taxpayers never even get to see or use.
- Iowans support federal deductibility. In the January 2009 ITR Statewide Poll, 72.5% of Iowans support keeping the deduction of federal tax payments on state income tax returns.
- Federal deductibility helps reduce the state tax burden on lower-income and middle-income Iowans who have few other ways to lower their tax bill.
- This is a sneaky, backdoor tax increase. Eliminating federal deductibility will increase your taxable income.
- Now is not the time to double-tax Iowa families.

Transparency Act Approved by Iowa House

The Iowa Transparency Act (House File 801) was approved by the Iowa House this week. On Tuesday, March 24, thanks to ITR members who were active and contacted their Legislators, the Transparency Act was approved by the Iowa House of Representatives on a vote of 96-3. The bill moved to the Senate State Government Committee and was assigned to a subcommittee of: Sen. Jeff Danielson (D-Waterloo), Sen. Randy Feenstra (R-Hull), and Sen. Pam Jochum (D-Dubuque).

The legislation creates a publicly available database website for taxpayers to access, at no charge, annual revenues and expenditures of state government agencies. Further, the bill creates a searchable tax rate database. The searchable tax rate database will include tax rates of all taxing jurisdictions across Iowa, and will contain a geographical tax rate map, as well as an individual tax rate calculator. This feature will provide Iowans with a much needed tool in seeing specifically how they are taxed by state and local governments.

The Transparency Act must clear the Senate State Government Committee before it can be considered by the full Senate. This legislation would not have moved forward without the strong support and voices of you, the members of Iowans for Tax Relief.