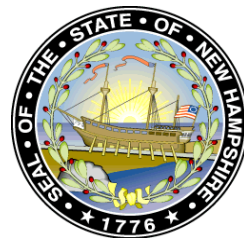


NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE



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HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE DENOUNCES STATE REVENUE "INFORMATIONAL SESSION" AS COVER FOR TAX INCREASES

The New Hampshire House Republican Alliance today denounced the upcoming legislative "tax summit informational session" to be held in the Legislative Office Building in Concord on October 21st and 22nd as a "transparent cover for a Democrat Party attempt to impose statewide sales and income taxes on the people of New Hampshire."

Announced by State Rep. Susan Almy (D-Lebanon), the chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee and a perennial supporter of raising taxes in New Hampshire, the "legislative summit" meeting is also being supported by the Speaker of the House, Terri Norelli (D. Portsmouth).

"This term's Democrat broad-based tax effort was meant to stay under the radar," said Rep. William O'Brien (R-Mont Vernon; co-chair, House Republican Alliance), "but it's now out in the open." Both Almy and Norelli, O'Brien added, are responsible as Democrat legislative leaders for state overspending in the past four years. Now they are using their overspending as a rationale to enact broad-based taxes, such as income and sales taxes.

Not surprisingly, the two legislators are also both past supporters of increasing taxes in New Hampshire. Rep. Almy particularly, in her position of chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, has in the first half of this legislative session advocated establishing both a state capital gains tax and an estate tax. She has also advocated creating statewide sales and income taxes in the past. Now however she denies that the "legislative summit" is designed to smooth the way for imposing more taxes, but that of course is exactly what it is intended to do.

"We are looking for input on our current revenue structure as a whole," she also said. But that position also is hardly reality. Members of the legislative committee have been told that no questions related to excessive spending by state government will be allowed.

"This tax summit has been set up by some of the most vocal supporters of statewide

sales and income taxes in the House," said Rep. Jordan Ulery (R-Hudson). "It is designed to lay the groundwork for more taxes on New Hampshire citizens so that the Democrats can continue excessive spending. Our state has been driven into a \$500 million deficit by the Democrat legislative leadership overspending during the past four years. Reversing that overspending is where the solution lies."

Added Rep. O'Brien: "Under no circumstances should these people be allowed to plot the creation of more state taxes designed to cover their past irresponsible spending, especially in the middle of an ongoing recession."

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