

HOLLY LAKE- Congressman Hensarling (TX-05) met with residents of Holly Lake today to discuss the American Taxpayer Bill of Rights, a proposal he authored to protect East Texas taxpayers from excessive tax increases, simplify the tax code, and provide accountability in federal spending.

Just last week, Hensarling helped lead efforts in the House to oppose the largest tax increase in American history, which was included in the 2008 budget resolution. This tax increase would have a drastic impact on East Texas families, and, according to data provided by the House Budget Committee, would raise taxes by over \$2,700 on nearly 8 million families in Texas should it take effect.

"Following the passage of the Majority Party's budget, which includes the largest tax increase in American history, it is especially important that our leaders in Washington realize that the money belongs to the taxpayers, not the federal government" said Congressman Hensarling. "I know that people are frustrated with the amount of spending coming out of Washington over the past several of years and are looking for solutions. By leading the charge to provide these rights, I hope to ensure that Washington will become more accountable to the taxpayers that pay for it. Enacting the principles outlined by the Taxpayers Bill of Rights will not only benefit taxpayers today, but it will ensure that our children do not face unbearable tax burdens."

Hensarling added, "I have heard from numerous East Texas residents over the past several weeks about what this tax increase would mean to them. A mother wrote me saying that the tax increase would make it difficult for her family to pay for radiation therapy to treat her husband's cancer. Another family said that this tax hike would be the 'straw that breaks the camel's back' and would make it impossible to pay their mortgage payments. In addition, constituents from all over North and East Texas told me that an increase in taxes means they will not be able to afford their children's college education. Numbers as large as those in the budget can be hard to wrap your mind around, but when you look at how they will affect individual families, it becomes immediately apparent that this tax increase is entirely unacceptable."

The American Taxpayer Bill of Rights is a pro-taxpayer initiative of the Republican Study Committee (RSC), a fiscally responsible group of over 100 House members led by Congressman Hensarling. It establishes four basic rights to ensure that the taxpayers across America receive a more efficient and accountable government.

1. Taxpayers have a right to have a federal government that does not grow beyond their ability to pay for it.
2. Taxpayers have a right to receive back each dollar that they entrust to the government for their retirement.
3. Taxpayers have a right to expect the government to balance the budget without having their taxes raised.
4. Taxpayers have a right to a simple, fair tax code that they can understand.

"I agree with those who believe that Washington spends too much, and I agree with those who believe that Washington still taxes too much," said Hensarling. "This is a pledge to work to balance the budget, cut wasteful Washington spending and provide further, permanent tax relief. I hope that families across Wood County will rally around this grassroots effort, tell their friends and families about the American Taxpayer Bill of Rights, and urge them to support the American Taxpayer Bill of Rights."

For updates on the American Taxpayer Bill of Rights, please visit:

http://www.house.gov/hensarling/rsc/doc/031407_American_Taxpayer_BillofRights.pdf

To sign a petition voicing your support for the American Taxpayer Bill of Rights, visit:

<http://www.freedomworks.org/action/taxpayer/>