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Americans for Prosperity Applauds U.S. Senate Candidate Patrick Hughes

-Signs No Climate Tax Pledge-

CHICAGO-The Illinois chapter of the free-market grassroots group Americans for Prosperity (AFP-IL) today applauded U.S. Senate candidate Patrick Hughes for signing the group's "No Climate Tax Pledge." By doing so, Hughes joins over [250 lawmakers and candidates](#) on the federal, state and local levels pledging to "**oppose legislation relating to climate change that includes a net increase in government revenue.**"

Hughes is running in the Republican primary against Rep. Mark Kirk (Ill.-10), who was one of only eight Republicans to vote for the Waxman-Markey energy bill. Waxman-Markey contained a cap-and-trade scheme that the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office has scored the plan as an \$846 billion increase in federal revenue, a violation of AFP's "No Climate Tax Pledge."

"One of AFP-IL's primary roles is to educate citizens on their elected officials' positions on key issues. It is unfortunate that Rep. Kirk voted for cap-and-trade; we hope that he will see the error of his ways and sign our pledge," said AFP-IL State Director Joe Calomino. "We encourage all of Illinois' elected officials and candidates for elected office to sign."

Cap-and-trade took its first step toward enactment when the U.S. House narrowly passed the Waxman-Markey energy bill, which escaped the lower chamber by a scant seven votes despite significant bipartisan opposition. However, key Democratic senators have expressed opposition to attempting to pass cap-and-trade this year. President Obama has made no secret of his support for the bill, which would be the largest tax increase in American history.

"Using the guise of climate change to transfer dollars from hard-working citizens to bureaucratic big government is unacceptable," said Calomino. "Regardless of their stance on global warming, this should be common ground for all of our elected officials at all levels of government."

The pledge is available online at www.NoClimateTax.com. AFP does not endorse candidates. All elected officials and candidates are encouraged to sign the pledge and go on the record in opposition to using the climate change issue to increase taxes and grow the size of government.

Americans for Prosperity (AFP) is a nationwide organization of citizen leaders committed to advancing every individual's right to economic freedom and opportunity. AFP believes reducing the size and scope of government is the best safeguard to ensuring individual productivity and prosperity for all Americans. AFP educates and engages citizens in support of restraining state and federal government growth, and returning

government to its constitutional limits. AFP has more than 700,000 members, including members in all 50 states, and 25 state chapters. For more information, visit www.americansforprosperity.org

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