

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 54

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO REPLACE THE
CURRENT INCOME TAX SYSTEM WITH A SINGLE RATE TAX SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the current federal income tax system is economically destructive and inconsistent with the principles of a free society; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the current Internal Revenue Code discourage saving, investment, economic growth and job creation, which are vital to a healthy economy; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the current Internal Revenue Code are manipulated by special interest groups through the creation of tax preferences; and

WHEREAS, double taxation of income, such as is found in the capital gains tax and estate tax, discourages savings, investment, entrepreneurial spirit and the ability to pass

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1 family businesses on to future generations, which stifles the
2 American dream; and

3 WHEREAS, the current income tax system is complex,
4 confusing and time consuming, forcing American individual and
5 business taxpayers to spend five billion four hundred million
6 man hours and two hundred twenty-five billion dollars
7 (\$225,000,000,000) each year to comply with the Internal
8 Revenue Code; and

9 WHEREAS, replacing the current income tax system with a
10 single rate tax system that taxes income only once, such as a
11 flat tax, would be fair and simple and would treat all
12 taxpayers equally; and

13 WHEREAS, a single rate tax system would eliminate the
14 double taxation of savings and investment income, thus
15 treating work and savings equally; and

16 WHEREAS, a single rate flat tax system would enhance
17 economic growth by being neutral in its treatment of saving,
18 investment and consumption, allowing people, not government,
19 to choose how they use their time and spend their money; and

20 WHEREAS, a single rate flat tax system would be easy to
21 comply with, saving individual and business taxpayers over two
22 hundred billion dollars (\$200,000,000,000) a year in
23 compliance costs;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
25 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the congress of the United States be

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1 called upon to replace the current income tax system with a
2 single rate tax system with a generous personal exemption,
3 such as a flat tax; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the president of the United States, the vice
6 president of the United States, the speaker of the United
7 States house of representatives, the majority leader of the
8 United States senate, the minority leader of the United States
9 house of representatives, the minority leader of the United
10 States senate, the chairmen and ranking minority members of
11 the finance committee of the United States senate and the ways
12 and means committee of the United States house of
13 representatives, and each member of the New Mexico
14 congressional delegation.