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CONGRESSMEN PETERSON AND LINDER LAUNCH BIPARTISAN INTRODUCTION OF FAIRTAX BILL INTO CONGRESS

"The Income Tax Was Born In The 20th Century, And We Intend To See It Dead Before It Infects The 21st"

Washington, D.C. -- It was a history-making moment on Capitol Hill today as Congressmen Collin Peterson (D-Minn.) and John Linder (R-Ga.) announced their introduction of the FairTax bill into Congress. The FairTax, the popular tax reform developed by Americans for Fair Taxation that has caught fire across the country, would replace all federal income and payroll taxes with a national retail sales tax - eliminating the IRS, fully funding Social Security and Medicare, and ensuring that all wage earners would receive their FULL PAYCHECK every pay day.

"The income tax was born in the 20th Century, and we intend to see it dead before it infects the 21st,"Congressman Linder said at a Capitol Hill news conference today.

"The reason the FairTax is gaining popularity is because the American people see it as a civil rights movement for the wage earner," Congressman Peterson said.

Since launching a national grassroots effort behind the FairTax in January 1998, the Americans for Fair Taxation has established 160 local chapters around the country with over 225,000 members located in all 435 congressional districts. One FairTax supporter who could not attend today's news conference, was James Martin, retired General Vice President of the International Iron Workers Union. Martin said the FairTax would be the best thing Congress could do for the American worker.

"With the FairTax, workers will get their full paycheck on pay day, there will be no more gaming the system, no more heavy-handed Internal Revenue Service and workers will have the power and choice over when, where and how much they're taxed. Social Security and Medicare will continue to be fully funded. It's a win-win situation for American workers and I'm proud to throw my support behind it," Martin said. To schedule an interview with Congressmen Peterson or Linder, or any FairTax spokesman, contact Andrew Langer (ext. 116) or Anne Golden (ext. 128) at (703)-683-5004.