



# Minnesota Death Tax Voter Guide Election 2010

## Death Tax Repeal matters for Minnesota

In just a few short weeks the death tax (aka, federal estate tax) comes roaring back to life at the rate of 55% on all estates above \$1 million.

Former Congressional Budget Office Director Douglass Holtz-Eakin has calculated that reinstating the death tax will cost the country 1.4 million small-business jobs.<sup>1</sup> Despite the catastrophic consequences of the death tax, many in Congress support reinstating it.

The voter guide indicates whether candidates have committed to supporting permanent death tax repeal by signing the *Death Tax Repeal Pledge*. The guide also provides the legislative voting record for incumbent members of the U.S. Senate and House.

Please review the guide before voting and share with your friends, family members, and colleagues. PDF copies of the guide are available at [www.nodeathtax.org/election2010](http://www.nodeathtax.org/election2010). Don't forget to vote!

### U.S. House Candidates

Candidate	Repeal Pledge Signer?	H.R. 4154 (2009)	H.R. 3056 (2007)	H.R. 8 (2002)	H.R. 1836 (2001)
<b>District 1</b>					
Rep. Tim Walz (DFL)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	NO	NO		
Randy Demmer (R)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
Lars Johnson (I)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
<b>District 2</b>					
Rep. John Kline (R)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	NO	YES	YES	
<b>District 3</b>					
Rep. Erik Paulsen (R)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	NO			
<b>District 4</b>					
Rep. Betty McCollum (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	YES	NO	NO	NO
Teresa Collett (R)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
<b>District 5</b>					
Rep. Keith Ellison (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	YES	NO		

<sup>1</sup> See Douglas Holtz-Eakin and Cameron T. Smith, "Growth Consequences of Estate Tax Reform: Impacts on Small and Family Businesses," *American Family Business Foundation*, September 2010.

Joel Demos (R)	<b>SIGNED PLEDGE</b>				
Lynne Torgerson (I)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
<b>District 6</b>					
Rep. Michele Bachmann (R)	<b>SIGNED PLEDGE</b>	NO	YES		
Aubrey Immelman (I)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
<b>District 7</b>					
Rep. Collin Peterson (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	YES	NO	YES	YES
Lee Byberg (R)	<b>SIGNED PLEDGE</b>				
Gene Waldorf (I)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
<b>District 8</b>					
Rep. Jim Oberstar (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	YES	NO	NO	NOT VOTING
Chip Cravaack (R)	<b>SIGNED PLEDGE</b>				

**Vote Key:**

H.R. 4154 (2009): Would have cancelled the 2010 death tax repeal and made the tax permanent at 45% with a \$3.5 million exemption.

H.R. 3056 (2007): Would have instructed the Senate Finance Committee to redraft legislation to include permanent death tax repeal.

H.R. 8: (2005): Would have permanently repealed the death tax.

H.R. 1836 (2001): Temporarily repealed the death tax (among other tax relief measures).

Blue represents a vote for repeal or reform of the estate tax. Red represents a vote to maintain the death tax status quo. Candidates who were not in office at the time of the vote are listed blank for the relevant vote. Candidates who were in office but chose not to vote for the legislation are listed as “not voting.”