



# Washington Death Tax Voter Guide Election 2010

## Death Tax Repeal matters for Washington

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> On the other hand, Washington alone stands to gain nearly 34,000 jobs if the Death Tax is repealed.<sup>2</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. Senate Candidates

Candidate	Repeal Pledge Signer?	H.R. 4213 (2010)	Amend. 873 Bud. Res 13 (2009)	H.R. 8 (2006)	H.R. 1836 (2001)	H.R. 8 (2000)
Sen. Patty Murray (D)	NOT SIGNED	NO	YES	NO	NOT VOTING	YES
Dino Rossi (R)	SIGNED PLEDGE					

**Vote Key:**

H.R. 4213 (2010): Would have instructed the Senate Finance Committee to redraft legislation to include permanent death tax repeal.

H.R. 8 (2006): Would have permanently repealed the death tax.

H.R. 8: (2002): Would have permanently repealed the death tax.

H.R. 1836 (2001): Temporarily repealed the death tax (among other tax relief measures).

H.R. 8 (2000): Would have permanently repealed the death tax.

Amendment 873 Bud. Res 13 (2009): Would have set aside room in the budget to make the death tax permanent at the rate of 35% with a \$5 million individual exemption.

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."

<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.

<sup>2</sup> Based on research published by the Washington Policy Center on June 9, 2009.

## 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. Jay Inslee (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	YES	NO	NO	NO
James Watkins (R)	<b>SIGNED PLEDGE</b>				
<b>District 2</b>					
Rep. Rick Larsen (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	YES	NOT VOTING	YES	YES
John Koster (R)	<b>SIGNED PLEDGE</b>				
<b>District 3</b>					
Denny Heck (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
Jaime Herrera (R)	<b>SIGNED PLEDGE</b>				
<b>District 4</b>					
Rep. Doc Hastings (R)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	NO	YES	YES	YES
Jay Clough (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
<b>District 5</b>					
Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R)	<b>SIGNED PLEDGE</b>	NO	YES	YES	
Daryl Romeyn (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
<b>District 6</b>					
Rep. Norm Dicks (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	YES	NO	NO	NO
Doug Cloud (R)	<b>SIGNED PLEDGE</b>				
<b>District 7</b>					
Rep. Jim McDermott (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	NO	NO	NO	NOT VOTING
Bob Jeffers-Schroder (I)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				

<b>District 8</b>					
Rep. Dave Reichert (R)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	NO	NOT VOTING	YES	
Suzan DelBene (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>				
<b>District 9</b>					
Rep. Adam Smith (D)	<b>NOT SIGNED</b>	YES	NO	NO	NO
Dick Muri (R)	<b>NOT SIGNED</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."