

Bob Dole



NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

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ECONOMIC GROWTH & TAX REFORM

**DOLE & GINGRICH FORM NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC GROWTH
& TAX REFORM: JACK KEMP TO SERVE AS CHAIRMAN OF NINE-MEMBER PANEL
"TO DESIGN A SYSTEM THAT IS FLATTER, FAIRER, & SIMPLER"**

Today, Speaker Gingrich and I are pleased to announce the formation of the National Commission on Economic Growth and Tax Reform. We're especially pleased to announce that Jack Kemp has agreed to lead this commission by serving as chairman.

As you all know, Jack is one of our country's most passionate voices on behalf of economic growth and expanded opportunity for all Americans. For more than two decades, from his service in Congress to his leadership of Empower America, Jack has been one of our party's most innovative thinkers on economic policy. No one within the GOP can speak to these issues more creatively and more credibly than Jack Kemp.

Our current federal tax code -- with its high marginal rates and thousands of pages of rules, regulations and red tape -- poses a formidable barrier to economic growth.

It punishes the most dynamic forces for growth in our economy -- the small business owners and entrepreneurs who turn bold ideas into new businesses, new jobs, and new products.

It discourages working Americans who are trying to save for the future in order to build a better life for themselves and their families.

It is endlessly complex and confusing, costing literally billions of dollars in lost time and effort.

Speaker Gingrich is moving important tax legislation through the House right now -- a vital step toward making the tax code more family-friendly and creating some incentives for saving and investment.

But the purpose of this commission is to move beyond tax reform toward a complete overhaul of the entire tax system. That's why we have asked Jack to reexamine the entire 9,000 page federal tax code: to start with a blank piece of paper and design a system that is flatter, fairer, and simpler -- one that will encourage strong economic growth and greater opportunity for all our people.

The commission will consist of eight members, plus the chairman. Four will be appointed by me and four by the Speaker. It will issue a report by late September.

I look forward to working with Jack and Newt and receiving the commission's recommendations.

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