

A citizen delegation from each state will be present in Philadelphia, personally to present each Master Petition and to urge the granting of its appeal.

These state spokesmen will stress the fact that those who signed will be advised by the press and otherwise of the consideration given to their views.

Note: Besides carrying the Master Petitions to Philadelphia, each state delegation will also have with it the actual papers that you sign—as verification of the signatures.

The Resolutions Committees are powerful, but their decisions are not necessarily final. The Convention as a whole must pass on the party platform.

Therefore, the citizen delegations from each state will remain in Philadelphia, and if the Resolutions Committees fail to meet the petitioned requests, other delegates will be appealed to—on the strength of the petitions—to take the issues to the floor of the Convention for final determination.

The Voice of Taxpayers

National Associated Businessmen is acting in this matter merely as the coordinator of many other organizations that desire to call these vital issues to the attention of the major political parties.

It is highly essential that business present a united front, showing to the political parties by a mass demonstration that taxpayers mean business in their demand for Government economy, tax equality and tax relief.

A MILLION SIGNATURES ON THIS PETITION WILL MEAN THAT BUSINESS AT LAST HAS A NATIONAL VOICE!

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
1239 Merchants Exchange
465 California Street
San Francisco, California

COLORADO ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
Equitable Building
Denver, Colorado

GEORGIA TAX EQUALITY ASSOCIATION
321 Grants Building
Atlanta, Georgia

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
Room 1025,
231 So. LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois

INDIANA TAX EQUALITY COMMITTEE, INC.
Room 315,
38 N. Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis, Indiana

IOWA ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
501 Garver Building
Des Moines, Iowa

KANSAS INDEPENDENT BUSINESS MEN'S ASSN.
209 Orpheum Building
Wichita, Kansas

TAX EQUALITY COMMITTEE OF KENTUCKY
Columbia Building
401 W. Main Street
Louisville, Kentucky

LOUISIANA TAX EQUALITY ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 1526
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MARYLAND ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
1508-09 Fidelity Building
Baltimore, Maryland

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
902 Olds Tower Building
Lansing, Michigan

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
511-516 Commerce Building
St. Paul, Minnesota

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
202 Crowder Highway Bldg.
Jackson, Mississippi

ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN OF EASTERN MISSOURI, INC.
Room 850, Paul Brown Bldg.
St. Louis, Missouri

MISSOURI-KANSAS BUSINESSMEN'S ASSN., INC.
1210 Waltham Building
Kansas City, Missouri

TAX EQUALITY ASSOCIATION OF MONTANA
McKay Building
107 1/2 E. Main Street
Missoula, Montana

NEBRASKA TAX EQUALITY COMMITTEE, INC.
714 Stuart Building
Lincoln, Nebraska

NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
P.O. Box 1312
Trenton 7, New Jersey

NEW YORK ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
Sherburne, New York

NORTH DAKOTA TAX EQUALITY COMMITTEE, INC.
P. O. Box 1954
Fargo, North Dakota

OHIO ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
198 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio

OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
135 N. W. Second Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

PENNSYLVANIA TAX EQUALITY COMMITTEE, INC.
112 Market St.
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

FEDERAL TAX EQUALITY LEAGUE OF TEXAS
1101 Commerce Street
Dallas, Texas

TAX EQUALITY LEAGUE OF UTAH
915 Kearns Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN
Travelers Building
Richmond, Virginia

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
231 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

NATIONAL ASSOCIATED BUSINESSMEN, INC.
815 15TH STREET, N.W.,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

How
you should circulate
the **P**etition —
and what will then
be done with it!

"Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the right of the people . . . to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Article I of the
Constitution of
the United States

SEE PAGE 6
for
SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

This petition is a non-partisan, citizens' appeal to the delegates of the Republican and Democratic Conventions, asking that they include in their respective party platforms planks favoring

GOVERNMENT ECONOMY

TAX EQUALITY

TAX RELIEF

The petition will be presented to the Resolutions Committees of the two conventions, which will meet a week before the Republican Convention date of June 21 and the Democratic Convention date of July 11.

These Resolutions Committees will listen to the views of many groups, but it is evident that those groups must provably represent great numbers of citizens and voters if their appeals are to result in favorable action.

Who Will Sign?

This petition definitely promises voter support to the political party heeding the request of signers.

Who will sign the petition?

All citizens and voters, regardless of their political affiliation. Remember that the petition will be presented to BOTH major political parties, and to the third and fourth parties if they materialize.

Copies of the petition will be circulated throughout the United States. Its sponsors are state associations of businessmen, trade associations, civic organizations, women's clubs, farm groups, labor groups, taxpayers' organizations and others.

Both employers and employees should be asked to sign—for both are either taxpayers or are vitally affected by taxes.

Farmers should be asked to sign—they, too, are taxpayers and the future of their farmer-owned cooperatives can be insured against the inroads of the growing city cooperative movement only by the payment of taxes on their earnings.

The greater the number of signers, the greater will be the effectiveness of the petition.

This petition has the power of numbers—that is, VOTES. It will convey to political leaders the desires and views of a heretofore politically inarticulate group which has tremendous political power.

No paid solicitors will be employed to circulate this petition.

No signatures on the petition will be bought and paid for.

Two Petition Forms

There are two petition forms—one providing space for ten signatures, the other with lines for 100 signatures.

The one that is sent you herewith is the shorter form. It is suggested that you sign it yourself—and immediately secure nine other signatures of voters in your office, at your club, among your luncheon associates or among the members of your family and your neighbors.

As soon as one form is filled, ask for another!

Ask for the 100-signature form for circulation among your employees.

Ask for more forms—either long or short—to send to your own mailing list of customers—urge them to ask for still more forms to distribute to their customers, their friends and their employees.

Suggest to the leaders of organized groups such as service clubs, luncheon clubs, civic organizations, women's organizations, that they, too, order and circulate petitions.

At the bottom of the petition is the name of the sponsor to whom you should apply for more petition forms and with whom you should file the signatures you have obtained.

MILLIONS OF SIGNERS ARE WANTED
With a little work on your part they can be had.

The Master Petitions

The state offices to which you send your signatures will immediately forward all signed petitions to national headquarters, in Washington, where the Master Petitions will be prepared for presentation to the convention delegates

Names and addresses will be photostated and mounted in great rolls

There will be one Master Petition for each state.

Do not delay in sending in your signed petitions. Please do not wait until you have secured all the names that you can. Send in each sheet as soon as it is filled with names.

The Master Petitions must be finished by June 5.

Your final signed petitions must be mailed to the state office not later than May 31.

Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!

Presenting the Petitions

The Master Petitions, with their hundreds of thousands of signatures, will be presented to members of the Resolutions Committee of each political party.

A Petition

for

GOVERNMENT ECONOMY—TAX EQUALITY—TAX RELIEF

To the Delegates to the Democratic and Republican National Conventions

High taxes, Government extravagances and unfair tax privileges are driving our Nation into inflation and bankruptcy, threatening destruction of free competitive enterprise.

We are over a quarter of a trillion dollars in debt, and Federal spending still continues to rise. The weight of this tax load is lowering our living standards. We are over-burdened with a bureaucracy which interferes with our freedoms. To pay for protection against a possible World War III, which looms dangerously, *we must economize at home.*

We therefore petition you to incorporate in your party platform the following closely related principles:

GOVERNMENT ECONOMY—*Consistent with the immediate needs of international commitments and national security, we urge a sufficient reduction in domestic Federal expenditures to enforce the abolition of non-essential Governmental activities and duplication of state functions; a substantial cut in the present 2,000,000 Federal employees; elimination of tax-free competition of Government-in-business; and immediate relief of business from bureaucratic interference.*

TAX EQUALITY—*Recognizing the competitive inequity of permitting 15 to 20 billion dollars of business volume to continue to escape Federal taxation, and the social injustice of allowing any segment of our economy to dodge its responsibility for the costs of the protection afforded by our Government in peace or in war; and further recognizing that the established position of cooperatives will in no way be jeopardized by taxing their corporate profits, we urge the taxation of cooperative corporations and other business tax exempts in the same manner and at the same rates as the fully taxed businesses with which they compete.*

TAX RELIEF—*We urge that Federal taxes on individuals and on businesses be further substantially reduced by overall Government economies and tax equality, to encourage incentive for more production, investment and employment.*

As a taxpayer and a citizen, I expect to vote on November 2, and I feel that I am entitled to the opportunity to vote for the party and the candidates standing for these specific principles.

NAME

STREET

CITY AND STATE

Return Signed Petition At Once To
RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH DAKOTA, PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA

(over)

WHAT THE THREE ISSUES MEAN!

Three major issues — of high importance to every citizen and to the future welfare of the Nation itself — are embodied in this petition to the National Conventions:

ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT

Expenditures of the Federal Government have risen from \$3,994,152,000 in 1930 to \$8,765,338,000 in 1939 to \$42,505,000,000 in 1947. Expenditures of \$39,669,000,000 have been proposed for 1949 — the fourth fiscal year after the end of World War II — and there are prospects of a \$50,000,000,000 budget of expenditures for 1950.

This tremendous increase in the cost of operating the Federal government cannot be entirely accounted for by expenditures for national defense, interest on the public debt and world rehabilitation.

Exclusive of these expenditures, the cost of operating the Federal government has increased from \$2,495,784,000 in 1930 to \$6,456,820,000 in 1939 to \$16,726,000,000 in 1947. Comparable expenditures for 1949 are \$16,385,000,000 — a drop of only \$341,000,000 from 1947.

It is apparent from this sixfold increase in peacetime expenditures that there is ample room for reducing the Federal budget.

Individual incentive must be restored by more economical operation of the Government. The present 2,000,000 civil employees of the Federal Government — exclusive of the military establishment — must be cut drastically. Benefits for specially privileged groups must be curtailed. Federal encroachment on state functions must be curtailed and those functions returned to state and local governments.

TAX EQUALITY

Cooperatives did more than \$13,000,000,000 of income-tax-free or nearly tax-free business in 1947. Other tax exempts did probably as much or more. All of this was in competition with businesses that pay full Federal income tax on all their earnings.

A tax expert, appearing before the Ways and Means Committee last November, testified that the Federal Treasury is

currently losing approximately \$300,000,000 in tax revenues a year from cooperatives alone and that this figure will approach \$2,000,000,000 in the next five years.

Loss of revenues through tax-exempt businesses is increasing at an alarming rate. Taxpayers are forced to pay higher taxes than would be necessary if all business was paying its full share in support of government.

Competitively, taxpayers are penalized by today's high tax rates. They are unable to accumulate capital for expansion and the creation of employment. Tax-exempts, including cooperatives and government corporations, are able to retain their entire earnings for expansion, and to buy out their less fortunate taxpaying competitors.

If taxpaying businesses are to survive, tax-exempts must be made to pay the same Federal income taxes as regular businesses.

TAX RELIEF

Revenue collections of the Federal government have risen from \$4,177,942,000 in 1930 to \$5,164,824,000 in 1939 to \$43,259,000,000 in 1947. The President's proposed budget calls for the collection of \$44,477,000,000 in Federal taxes for 1949.

The greater portion of these revenues have been raised by taxation of individual and corporate income. These sources of revenue yielded the Federal government \$2,410,987,000 in 1930, \$2,188,757,000 in 1939, and \$29,305,000,000 in 1947. They are expected to yield \$32,664,000,000 in 1949.

This continued taxation of income can only cause further inflation, the disappearance of venture capital and the further loss of individual incentive. Substantial reduction in income tax rates, as it has in the past, would result in increased revenues and the restoration of individual incentive and the creation of venture capital.

This was proven after World War I. For example, in 1922 individuals paid \$861,057,308 in Federal income taxes. In 1928 they paid \$1,164,254,037 after a tax reduction of more than 50 per cent.

Proposed economies in Government and tax equality would contribute heavily to the possibilities of tax relief.