



News from

THE RIPON SOCIETY

July 13, 2010

Ripon Society Hosts Briefing and Panel Discussion on The \$250,000 Question: *Which Taxes will Obama Raise?*

The Ripon Society hosted its fourth “Bully Box Lunch” briefing and panel discussion of the year yesterday, an event that focused on what has become the \$250,000 question in Washington these days:

Which taxes will Obama raise?

“We’re on the cusp of making some of the biggest changes in tax policy in 10 years,” stated Jim Conzelman, the President & CEO of The Ripon Society. “Yet in Washington, the prospect of what these changes may be is barely registering in the news.

“It’s a big story to Americans, however. In less than five months, they may be staring at an increase in their tax bill that could have a real impact on their pocketbooks and bottom line. The purpose of yesterday’s lunch was to discuss what some of these changes may be, and the impact they might have on the Nation’s economy.”

The lunch was held at the Capitol Visitors Center and moderated by Beverly Marshall, Vice President for Federal Government Affairs for Duke Energy. It featured a keynote address by former Texas Congressman Bill Archer, who served as Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and helped write many of the tax relief proposals that, unless Congress takes action otherwise, will expire at the end of this year.

In his remarks, Archer discussed the formulation of tax policy on Capitol Hill, noting that during his time in office policy in this regard “was dictated primarily by politics and secondarily by the budget.” He also noted that the exploding growth of the debt and the deficit over the past 16 months will likely have an impact on the tax debate later this year.

In addition to Archer’s speech, today’s lunch also featured a panel discussion with some of the leading experts on tax policy in Congress. These experts included: Mark Prater, Staff Director and Chief Tax Counsel for the Senate Finance Committee; Evan M. Liddiard, Senior Tax Policy Adviser for Senator Orrin G. Hatch (UT); David M. Olander, Minority Staff Director for the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures of the Ways and Means Com-



Former Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer delivers the keynote address at The Ripon Society’s July 12th tax policy briefing.

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mittee; and, Rob Guido, Legislative Assistant for Representative Dave Camp (MI-4), the Ranking Republican on the Ways and Means Committee.

Among other things, the group discussed the likelihood that debate over renewing the tax relief proposals will be delayed until a lame duck session of Congress after the mid-term elections, leaving little time to discuss the ramifications of any changes that could be made.

According to Conzelman, the format of the lunch was intended to foster discussion among the featured participants and those who attended the event. About 55 Ripon Society members and congressional staff members attended the event.

The Ripon Society is a public policy organization that was founded in 1962 and takes its name from the town where the Republican Party was born in 1854 -- Ripon, Wisconsin. One of the main goals of The Ripon Society is to promote the ideas and principles that have made America great and contributed to the GOP’s past success. These ideas include keeping our nation secure, keeping taxes low and having a federal government that is smaller, smarter and more accountable to the people.

For more information on The Ripon Society, please visit <http://www.riponsociety.org>.

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Bully Box Lunch Briefing on
The \$250,000 Question: Which
Taxes will Obama Raise?
July 12, 2010**

Clockwise from top left:
Mark Prater, Staff Director and Chief Tax
Counsel for the Senate Finance Committee;
Evan M. Liddiard, Senior Tax Policy Adviser
for Senator Hatch; David M. Olander, Minority
Staff Director for the Subcommittee on Select
Revenue Measures; Rob Guido, Legislative
Assistant for Representative Dave Camp; and,
Beverly Marshall, Vice President for Federal
Affairs for Duke Energy.

*For more information on future Ripon Society events,
please visit www.riponsociety.org.*

