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Paid For By Howard Stopeck For Congress

Howard Stopeck's Proposed 1983 Tax Code Changes

- I am a fiscal conservative old-school Republican who as a young man was inspired by Senator Everett Dirksen, William Buckley "Firing Line" and the National Review.
- In 1983, when my Atlanta residence was in the Fourth District of Georgia, I ran for the Republican Primary for Congress. I proposed a 12% flat tax and a 3% corporate tax on gross final sales; or alternately an 18% consumption national sales tax to replace our IRS tax code, which would have duplicated revenues collected at that time. If my proposed tax code was embraced by the electorate and enacted, we'd be able to compare revenue with spending side by side, because we could see it's our money. If we wanted to reduce the percentage, we could reduce what we want from government.
- If my tax plan was enacted, the rich would have paid more taxes and we'd have equality.
- Whereas government is incompetent to stimulate economic growth, we dispense oil depreciations allowances, farm supports, defense contract over-runs, cash for clunkers, tax-refunds to people who don't pay taxes and encourage the poor to expect hand-outs. Our tax code is madness created by a devil that bewitched and addicted us with the dope of dueling favoritism that we cling to like a life preserver on the ocean. While we are on a fast-track to bankruptcy, the advocates for the plunderers and parasites will come on television, spinning their special interest competing concepts of fairness.
- Any tax code must be equal, eliminate every tax incentive, deduction, favoritism or hand-out. A fixed percentage tax will make us feel like the money is coming out of our own pocket and not from a mythical money tree. Whereas it's OK to order from an ala carte menu if the money's coming out of our own pocket, don't believe the restaurant who says grits or hash-browns are included in the price of breakfast. People must plant, harvest, process, package, distribute, deliver, cook, serve it and everyone must be paid.
- I attach my 1983 tax code figures and calculations to be examined by any economist.
- The Republican electorate didn't want any tax code change; and I lost the Republican primary to Pat Swindall, who went on to beat Elliott Levitas for Congress. While serving in Congress, Pat Swindall was indicted relative to criminal drug money laundering, served time in the federal penitentiary and nine years later he was indicted relative to Atlanta City Counsel illegal campaign contributions.
- You've seen candidates give pre-set answers, side-step direct questions, backtrack and put a spin on their words so they don't anger the base or turn-off the electorate.
- Whereas it may not be the best way to get elected, I will live-up to my words, my beliefs and I will not avoid or side-step questions regardless of the consequences.