

NEWS RELEASE



Lt. Governor Bruce Johnson

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**LT. GOVERNOR VISITS DAYTON, DISCUSSES TAX REFORM**

DAYTON –Lieutenant Governor Bruce Johnson was in Dayton today delivering a luncheon Speech for a meeting of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties. Johnson spoke on the need for tax reform to help secure the future of Ohio’s economy.

“Ohio has an antiquated tax system that hurts businesses already here and hinders our ability to attract new business to Ohio,” said Johnson, who also serves as state development director. “Our tax reform plan helps families by cutting the personal income tax and improves our business climate by eliminating taxes that penalize companies operating in Ohio.”

In his luncheon speech, Johnson laid out details of the plan unveiled in Governor Taft’s State of the State address. He listed three critical elements of the proposed tax reform:.

1. Cutting the personal income tax by 21 percent across-the-board. Ohioans that make less than \$10,000 a year will pay no state income tax at all.
2. Eliminating the tax on machinery, equipment and inventories, encouraging businesses to expand and make capital investments.
3. Eliminating Ohio’s unfair corporate franchise tax and replacing it with a commercial activity tax that has a very low rate and a very broad base to reflect all of Ohio’s economic activity.

According to Johnson, Ohio is transitioning from the primarily industry-based economy of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to a more diverse, knowledge-based economy, and in order to maintain a competitive business climate, the tax code must also change. “Our economy has shifted from a single-source economy to a diversified, multi-source economy and our tax system needs to mirror these changes,” said Johnson.

The National Association of Industrial and Office Properties is a national association with more than 12,000 members and an extensive network of 50 chapters that represent the interests of developers and owners of industrial, office and related commercial real estate throughout North America.

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