

NEWS RELEASE



Lt. Governor Bruce Johnson

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**LT. GOVERNOR APPLAUDS OHIO MANUFACTURERS'  
ASSOCIATION'S SUPPORT OF OHIO'S TAX REFORM PLAN**

COLUMBUS – Lieutenant Governor Bruce Johnson today thanked the Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA) for its support of the State's tax reform plan. The proposal is expected to strengthen Ohio's economy, and create a more competitive business climate by eliminating taxes that penalize companies for investing in Ohio.

"The Ohio Manufacturers' Association represents the interests of Ohio's manufacturers, a critical sector of our state's economy," said Johnson, who also serves as director of the Ohio Department of Development. "By pledging its support, the OMA recognizes the importance of tax reform on its industry and the benefits it will have for its membership. I'm pleased that the organization will stand behind this important plan in the coming weeks and months."

Governor Bob Taft announced his tax reform plan last month during his 2005 State of the State Address. The plan would cut personal income tax rates by 21 percent over five years; eliminate state income tax for Ohioans making less than \$10,000 a year; and phase out the tax on equipment and inventory and the corporate tax, replacing them with a broad-based, low-rate commercial activity tax. Overall, the plan would collect \$800 million less over the next two years than the state would receive if today's tax rates remained in place. In conjunction with tax reform, Taft is also calling for restrained state spending and reduced Medicaid growth in his FY 2006-2007 budget proposal, which is the lowest-growth budget presented in Ohio in 40 years.

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**EDITORS NOTE:** Reporters interested in speaking with Lt. Governor Johnson regarding the tax reform plan should contact Bill Teets at 614.466.2382.