

FairTax and Abuse of Power

In 1798, John Adams wrote: "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. "

Seems the old guy had a pretty good understanding of human nature, and, if anything, the morass swirling around the backroom deals, bribery, pandering, and outright unconstitutionality of the Healthcare legislation recently passed by Congress demonstrates his uncommon wisdom and prescience.

While the issue of Healthcare is certainly one worthy of debate, Congress has demonstrated, with its cynical machinations, that it can not be trusted with an unfettered power to tax. In the latest version, there are 40 new taxes (that we know about), ranging from higher taxes on alcoholic beverages, to higher payroll taxes, to extra taxes on various procedures, medications, and services. Congress also cut a number of "special deals" providing credits, grants, or outright cash to members in order to get votes or placate special interests.

Pundits have even noted that some of our Senators are openly putting price tags on their votes. Senator Landrieu, for instance, corrected a reporter who questioned her about "selling her vote" for \$100 million. She proudly proclaimed "... it's not a \$100 million fix. It's a \$300 million fix." Truly a performance worthy of a banana republic.

The FairTax would change this. Under the FairTax, if Congress really has to raise more money, it would raise the tax on everything. No special deals for your company because your Daddy grew up with Senator HuffandPuff. And no specially crafted exemptions for your group because you raised money for Representative PayBack's election. Everyone would pay their fair share.

Under the FairTax, Congress would still have their Constitutional ability and responsibility to legislate in the best interests of the Nation, but their ability to deal in corruption and political gamesmanship would be sharply curtailed.

Adams, as one of our Founders, fought to free America from the unfettered powers of a far-off King to tax the nascent Nation into submission. Two hundred years later, Congress isn't as far away, but its power to tax is even more oppressive. We may not have another Adams, but we do have the FairTax.