
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8005

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, Swecker, Winsley, Mulliken, Honeyford, West,
Hale, Esser and Schmidt

Read first time 01/23/2003. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Under tax relief legislation passed in 2001, the death tax
9 was temporarily phased out, not permanently eliminated; and

10 WHEREAS, Women and minorities are very often owners of small and
11 medium-sized businesses, and the death tax prevents their children from
12 reaping the rewards of a lifetime of trying to make a better life; and

13 WHEREAS, Farmers and other small businesses will face losing their
14 farms and businesses if the federal government resumes the heavy
15 taxation of citizens at death; and

16 WHEREAS, Employees suffer when they lose their jobs when small and
17 medium-sized businesses are liquidated to pay death taxes; and

18 WHEREAS, If the estate tax had been repealed in 1996, over the next
19 nine years the United States economy would have averaged as much as

1 eleven billion dollars per year in extra output, and an average of one
2 hundred forty-five thousand additional new jobs would have been
3 created; and

4 WHEREAS, The persistent uncertainty created by the sunset provision
5 prevents families and small businesses from taking advantage of the
6 temporary repeal; and

7 WHEREAS, Having repeatedly passed both the United States House of
8 Representatives and the United States Senate, elimination of the death
9 tax has proven to hold wide bipartisan support;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that our
11 elected Representatives and Senators in the United States Congress will
12 work to permanently repeal the death tax.

13 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
14 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
15 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
16 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
17 Washington.

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