

Friday, November 18, 2011

To: Our thousands of supporters throughout the state (cc'd to the media, house & senate members, and Governor)

From: Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, I-1125 co-sponsors, ph: 425-493-9127, email: [tim\\_eyman@comcast.net](mailto:tim_eyman@comcast.net), [www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com](http://www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com) (go to our website to do a secure donation by VISA/Mastercard/PayPal or print out the form below, fill it out, and return it with a check or money order or credit card information) -- *sometimes this web link doesn't work so please cut and paste it if you have to, sorry for the extra step* -- again, that website address is VotersWantMoreChoices dot com (all one word)

## **RE: Fighting to defend our \$30 car tabs**

15 initiatives in 15 years (total savings for taxpayers so far: \$18 billion) but we'll always remember the first: \$30 car tabs. That 1999 campaign was an historic battle. Despite opponents' \$2 million scare campaign, Initiative 695 passed with 56% voter approval. After the courts said no, Gov. Gary Locke said "Regardless of the court's ruling, \$30 license tabs are here to stay." To put an exclamation point on that historic vote, we sponsored and voters approved I-776 in 2002 which stopped state and local governments from increasing car tab taxes without a vote of the people.

The people have earned their \$30 car tabs.

But as we've learned, the tug-of-war over taxes never ends. Here's a story from yesterday's Wenatchee World:

## ***City's car-tab talk draws out Eyman***

*By Michelle McNiel, Wenatchee World staff writer, Thursday, November 17, 2011*

CHECK OUT THIS ICONIC PHOTO:



*WENATCHEE — The chief proponent of the state's \$30 car tabs is urging Wenatchee leaders not to increase them without a public vote.*

*Professional initiative writer Tim Eyman fired off emails this week to Wenatchee city officials who are considering a \$20 increase in car tabs to boost revenues for city services. He said voters in Chelan County — including Wenatchee — have repeatedly and resoundingly voted in favor of lower car tabs and against any attempts to tack on additional fees.*

*"There's nothing anyone can do to stop you," he wrote. "But don't doubt for a minute that your efforts to take away their \$30 tabs and take away their right to vote is not what the citizens want."*

*Mayor Dennis Johnson raised the idea earlier this year for increasing car tabs as a way to generate new revenues. Since the fee would not take effect until six months after it was approved, it would raise an estimated \$250,000 next year and about \$500,000 a year after that.*

*City Council members initially said they would not impose such a fee without at least an advisory vote. But last week many of them said they are now willing to consider adopting the fee without a vote. They will hold a public hearing on the matter at 5:15 p.m. Thursday at City Hall.*

*That got the attention of Eyman, who in 1999 led a successful campaign to set car tabs at \$30. More than 66 percent of Chelan County voters approved the state initiative that established the fee, compared to the statewide approval of 56 percent. The state initiative was eventually shot down in court, but the state Legislature and the governor adopted it into law.*

*Eyman then led a follow-up initiative in 2002 that repealed a state provision that allowed local governments to tack \$15 onto car tabs. That initiative passed with 52 percent approval statewide — and 61.4 percent approval in Chelan County, Eyman pointed out in his e-mail.*

*The Legislature has since adopted rules that allow local governments to add on up to \$20 without a vote and up to \$100 with voter approval. A dozen cities have imposed \$20 fees and one city has a \$10 fee — all without voter approval.*

*Eyman said every time a city has sought voter approval to raise car tabs it has failed at the polls. Yakima County posed an advisory vote in 2008 that was defeated by 81 percent of voters. The Seattle City Council sought voter approval last November and it was rejected by 60 percent.*

*“You’re in pretty conservative territory over there and your voters have consistently said ‘We want \$30 car tabs,’” he said in an interview Wednesday. “If you want them higher, you have to ask voters.”*

*He urged the Wenatchee City Council to “Do the right thing and put it on the ballot.”*

-- END --

With your help, Jack, Mike, and I will continue to aggressively defend the voters' ballot box decisions.

If you like and appreciate our past, current, and future efforts on behalf of taxpayers, please send us a donation for \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000, \$2500, \$5000 or more (there are no limits on how much can be given). Please consider a monthly pledge from now through December for our fund. We ask you to please help us help taxpayers. You can go to our website -- [www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com](http://www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com) -- sometimes this web link doesn't work so please cut and paste it if you have to, sorry for the extra step -- and make a secure PayPal or VISA or MasterCard contribution -- OR, you can print out the form below, fill it out, and return it with a check or credit card information. Your voluntary contribution to our compensation fund will be divided between the three of us and compensate us for our political work.

Thank you again for your continued support for our efforts on behalf of taxpayers.

As for our compensation fund, we would be extremely grateful for any financial assistance you can offer. Thanks.

Best Regards, Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, Fighting for Taxpayers for 15 Years, ph: 425-493-9127, email: [tim\\_eyman@comcast.net](mailto:tim_eyman@comcast.net), [www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com](http://www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com) (go to our website to do a secure donation by VISA/Mastercard/PayPal or print out the form below, fill it out, and return it with a check or money order or credit card information) -- sometimes this web link doesn't work so please cut and paste it if you have to, sorry for the extra step -- again, that website address is VotersWantMoreChoices dot com (all one word)

P.S. There are thousands of politicians, bureaucrats, lobbyists, and special interest groups working each and every day to raise your taxes. Shouldn't there be at least one person, one team, one organization that fights to lower your taxes? Please help us so we can continue our successful efforts on behalf of taxpayers.

**EACH YEAR, FROM JANUARY THROUGH JUNE, WE ASK THAT YOU FOCUS YOUR DONATIONS TOWARD THE SIGNATURE GATHERING CAMPAIGN**

**EACH YEAR, FROM JULY THROUGH DECEMBER, WE ASK THAT YOU FOCUS YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD HELP US HELP TAXPAYERS, THE COMPENSATION FUND FOR JACK, MIKE, AND TIM**

**NOW THAT WE'RE ON THE BALLOT, WE ASK THAT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU SEND IN YOUR MOST GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION SO WE CAN CONTINUE OUR FIGHT ON BEHALF OF TAXPAYERS**

**WE'RE REALLY COUNTING ON YOU**

HELP US HELP TAXPAYERS . "Compensation fund for Tim, Jack & Mike" . PO Box 18250 . Spokane . WA . 99228 . PH: 425-493-8707 . FAX: 425-493-1027 . [www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com](http://www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com)

Guys, I really appreciate what you're doing - keep fighting for us. Please accept my contribution for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Voluntary donations to "Help Us Help Taxpayers" are not tax-deductible. Voluntary donations to "Help Us Help Taxpayers" are political donations that will be used to compensate Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan for their effective political work on behalf of taxpayers.