

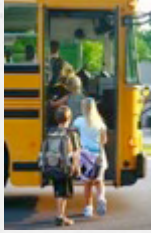


Talking Taxes

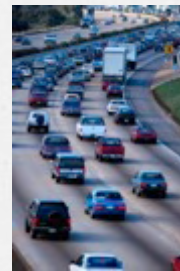
AOP GLD Orientation
January 28, 2012
Montgomery, Alabama

**Alabama
should not tax
low-income families
deeper into poverty.**

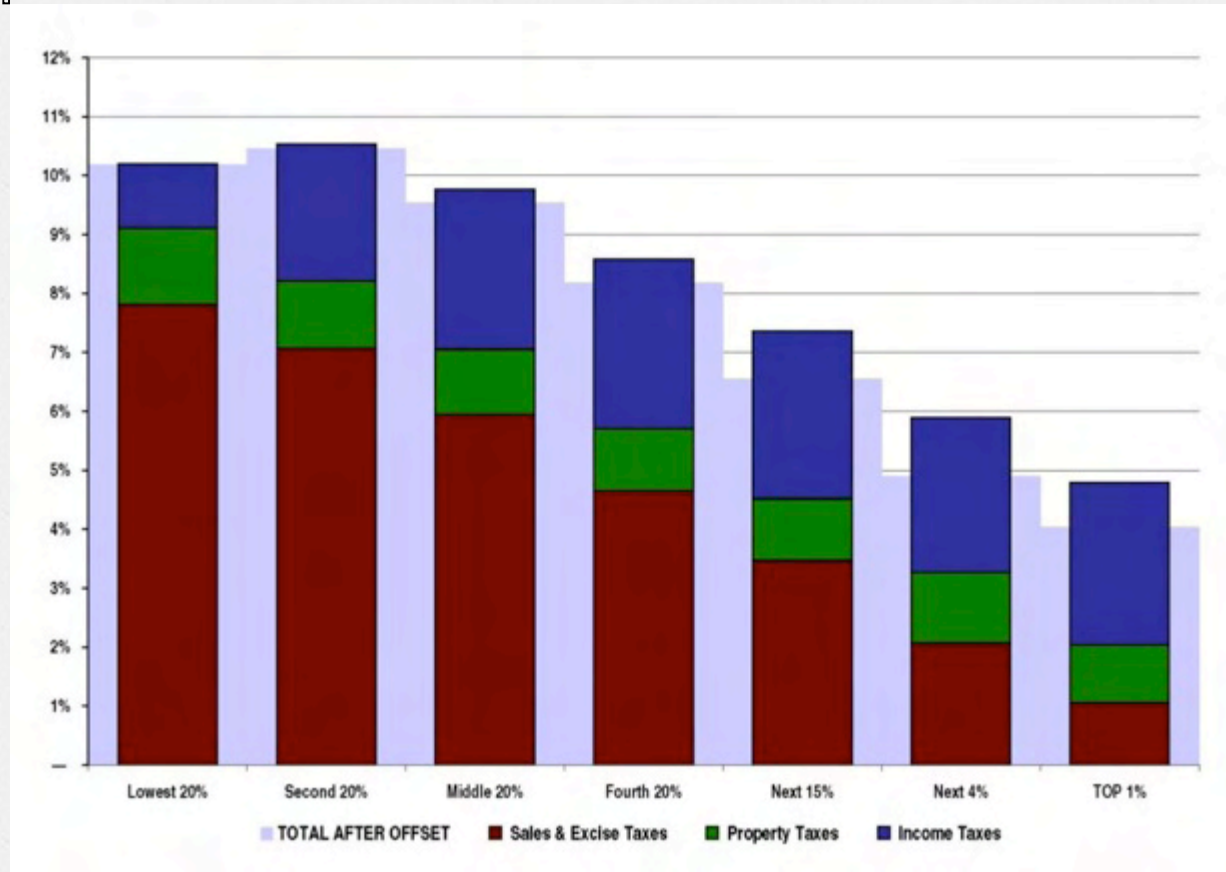




**Taxes are tools we use to
pay for elements of the
common good –
everyone contributes.**



Alabama's upside-down state and local taxes



Alabama Has Two State Budgets

- **Education Trust Fund**
 - Funds education only
 - Revenue sources:
 - Income & sales tax
- **General Fund**
 - **Funds:** Medicaid, child care, prisons, public health & safety, mental health, highways, human resources, courts, etc.
 - Revenue sources:
 - Property, oil & gas, automobile, court costs, estate, interest income, alcohol, & other slow growth taxes

Budgets are moral documents

**For Alabama to
move forward, we
must restore balance
to our broken tax
system.**



One Solution: Untaxing groceries

- Alabama and Mississippi are the only two states with no tax break on groceries.
- The 2012 grocery tax proposal would:
 - End state sales tax on groceries and over-the-counter drugs.
 - End federal income tax deduction for all.
 - Generate about \$240M in new revenue for education.



How You Can Help

- **Sign people up for the grocery tax campaign**
Download form at www.arisecitizens.org or call (800) 832-9060
- **Get to know your elected official**
- **Write a letter to the editor**
- **Keep the conversation going**
- **Sign up for daily news digest** at www.Arisedailynews.info
- **Join the Arise discussion group** at www.arisecitizens.org

Did we accomplish the goals?

- **Do you understand the notion of taxes as tools for the common good?**
- **Do you have a picture of what Alabama's tax system looks like?**
- **Do you have a basic idea of our state budgeting process?**
- **Do you have an idea of possible solutions to budgeting problems?**
- **Do you feel equipped to do something to influence the tax policy in Alabama?**

**Thank You
For Talking
Taxes!!**