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PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Mike Marcil joins bipartisan coalition to oppose Measure 2; Compares initiative to the 'sub-prime mortgage disaster'

Fargo, ND October 23, 2008— Joining mounting opposition to Measure #2, Mike Marcil compared it to a sub-prime mortgage and the related economic crisis. "Measure 2 is like a sub-prime mortgage- it looks good in the beginning but ends in foreclosure," he said.

Measure 2 is a proposed cut in personal and corporate income taxes on the November 4th ballot.

"Measure 2 is a disaster and should be rejected," said Marcil. "Responsible leadership means taking this issue on and pointing out that it is risky and short-sighted."

"Using 'Americans for Prosperity' own data (the ballot measure sponsor), our analysis indicates a \$175 million dollar deficit results in less than 8 years," said Marcil.

Marcil is CEO of The Marcil Group, Inc., a Fargo-based real estate operating company.

"We have a broad-based group that opposes this measure. This is the people's business, and the good citizens of this state need a voice. An out-of-state group is behind this, with the support of a few misguided local people who couldn't even write the language correctly."

The details include the following:

- Measure 2 would be one of the most dramatic changes enacted in tax policy by any state in decades.
- Measure 2 is costly- over \$400 million per biennium, and it relies on the current economic boom in the state, which is risky given likely plummeting oil and gas revenues.
- Measure 2 is ill-conceived and unfair; the state's income tax rate is one of the lowest in the nation, and the biggest beneficiaries of the change would be higher-income individuals.
- The out-of-state group "Americans for Prosperity" has conducted a misleading analysis of Measure 2's impact on families by incorrectly focusing on total income rather than taxable income. They have distorted the effects and are misleading North Dakotans.
- This measure focuses on the wrong tax. The average North Dakota citizen is impacted by sales and property taxes, not income taxes. The out-of-state group "Americans for Prosperity" doesn't get that.
- The state is positioned to invest its current surplus in K-12 education, higher education, roads and bridges, and other commitments to the state's future. Measure 2 would prevent those investments that Governor John Hoeven supports.

“Not only will Measure 2 short-circuit needed investments, but our analysis indicates that an economic downturn could send the state into a budget deficit. There are examples of states that have experienced busts following large tax reductions- Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York. That led to reductions in public services and tax increases,” said Marcil.

“Measure 2 is reckless and threatens to put our state in jeopardy. We don’t want higher-education costs going through the roof. We have roads and bridges that need repair, and infrastructure needs. Measure 2 is irresponsible and threatens the prosperity North Dakotans have worked hard to achieve,” said Marcil.

About The Marcil Group:

The business is structured as a diversified company focused on real estate and other related businesses. The company acquires, develops and manages income producing real estate and uses a proprietary blend of technology, business process and marketing to dramatically increase the return on investment while limiting downside risk through ownership of tangible assets.

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