

## **NTLF Background and Mission Memo**

The National Tax Limitation Foundation (NTLF) was founded in 1976 as the education and research arm of the National Tax Limitation Committee. It is one of the longest standing and strategically oriented pro-taxpayer/entrepreneur organizations in America. NTLF grew out of work which Founder and President Lew Uhler did for then-Governor Ronald Reagan to constitutionally limit the growth of taxes and spending year over year in order to control the size of government ([Proposition 1](#), California, 1973).

The Foundation has sponsored and participated in a wide range of activities involving the tax limitation/balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution, state tax limitation measures, line-item veto, term limits for state and federal officeholders, advancing the concept of limited government through the medium of the optimal, or “right,” size of government, including the reallocation of functions between levels of government. More specifically, NTLF has:

- Designed the first tax limitation/balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution (S.J. Res. 58). (NTLF’s blue-ribbon drafting committee included Milton Friedman, James Buchanan, Paul McCracken, Bill Niskanen, Craig Stubblebine, Walter Williams, Robert Bork, Aaron Wildavsky, Robert Nisbet, Robert Carleson, Senator Orrin Hatch to mention but a few.)
- Have provided the research and education support for the effort to secure state resolutions for the balanced budget amendment pursuant to Article V of the U.S. Constitution.
- Sponsored numerous national and regional conferences, often involving State Policy Network organizations, local state policy councils, including:
  - “Revitalizing the Presidential Veto” (Forrest McDonald, Leno Graglia, James C. Miller, III, Stephen Glazier, Boyden Gray, Charles Cooper, etc.);
  - “Amending the Constitution: Congress, the States and the Prospect of a Convention” (Ed Meese, M. Stanton Evans, Sen. Larry Craig, etc.);
  - “Setting Limits: The Role of the States in America’s Fiscal Future” (Milton Friedman, John Sununu, Newt Gingrich, Richard Vedder, etc.);
  - “California Leadership Issues Training” seminars to prepare new and prospective legislators;
  - with National Center for Policy Analysis, cosponsored a conference, “The Optimal Size of Government” (Gerald Scully, Bill Niskanen, Rich Vedder, Grover Norquist, etc.)
  - with the National Tax Limitation Committee, Americans for Tax Reform, Free Congress Foundation and Let Freedom Ring cosponsored a conference “Ronald Reagan’s Vision and Policies: How They Can Guide America Today” (Congressmen Paul Ryan, Tom Price and Bob Goodlatte, Peter Ferrara, Ed Meese, Bill Niskanen, Steve Entin, Richard Vedder, Bob Coakley, Grover Norquist, Colin Hanna, etc.)
- Published and distributed numerous studies and books, including:
  - “Meeting America’s Economic Crisis: A Roadmap to Emergency Spending Reductions,”
  - “The Right of Peaceful Change: Article V of the Constitution” (John Armor);
  - “Constitutional Aspects of the Balanced Budget Amendment (Antonin Scalia);
  - “Setting Limits: Constitutional Control of Government” (Lewis K. Uhler) with forward by Milton Friedman;
  - “Red State Uprising: How to Take Back America” (Erick Erickson and Lewis K. Uhler);
  - prepared testimony/provided witnesses for numerous state/congressional hearings.

For years NTLF has coordinated the [Tax Cut Working Group](#), a coalition of leading national taxpayer groups and think tanks, providing information and direction on tax/spending issues.