



Defend Historic Tax Reform by Rejecting Corporate Welfare in All Forms, Starting with Tax Extenders

March 14, 2018

Dear Chairman Buchannan and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of our members and millions of grassroots activists throughout the country, Americans for Prosperity and Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce write to urge you to stand strong in defense of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) by opposing the renewal of billions of dollars of expired corporate carve outs – otherwise known as tax extenders – in the post-tax reform era.

While not perfect, the TCJA took significant steps to begin reducing the amount of corporate welfare in the tax code and started rightfully returning that money to the people who earned it. Adding billions of dollars in expired corporate welfare provisions back into the tax code after tax reform has passed would needlessly weaken the most significant legislative achievement in more than 30 years and send the wrong signal to special interests that Washington is back to business as usual.

Earlier this year when asked about tax extenders, Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady, told the [Washington Examiner](#), "Our old tax code is over. ... [I]t makes zero sense to trudge on with old provisions that served a different purpose, in a different tax code, during a different time." Chairman Brady is right. The tax extenders currently under consideration, including those for industries like rum production, horse racing, and green energy, were wrong before tax reform and have no place in a post-tax reform world.

These carve outs were the products of a broken tax code riddled with the corrupting influence of corporate welfare and designed to allow Washington to pick winners and losers. They benefit the well-connected few at the expense of everyone else, they are unjust and unfair, and they underscore one of the major reasons why tax reform was so desperately needed in the first place. Furthermore, the tax relief and benefits that every sector will see as a result of the new tax law will be far greater than these outdated carve outs. There is no justification for renewing them.

We strongly urge the members of this Committee to stay true to the principles you stood for to get tax reform passed, build on the progress you've already made, and reject corporate welfare in all forms, starting with tax extenders.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Nascimento".

Nathan Nascimento
Executive Vice President
Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brent Gardner".

Brent Gardner
Chief Government Affairs Officer
Americans for Prosperity

Americans for Prosperity (AFP) exists to recruit, educate, and mobilize citizens in support of the policies and goals of a free society at the local, state, and federal level, helping every American live their dream – especially the least fortunate. Freedom Partners is a non-profit, non-partisan chamber of commerce dedicated to protecting freedom and expanding opportunity for every American—no matter where they live, what they do or how much money they have.