



November 19, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 205145

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader of the United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader McConnell:

On behalf of our organizations and the millions of American individuals, families, and business owners they represent, we write to you today in strong opposition to reviving dozens of so-called “tax extenders” that provide special interest tax breaks and unfairly pick winners and losers by propping up select industries and companies over others.

Americans across the country, including lawmakers from both sides of the aisle, have rightfully decried the billions of dollars in corporate welfare given to Amazon. The billions more that are up for renewal in the tax extender package are no different.

The \$2.2 billion in tax incentives that Amazon will receive is dwarfed by the billions in special tax credits, deductions and carve outs that could be on the table the coming weeks for racehorse owners, electric vehicles, motorsports complexes, and other favored special interests. This would be in addition to the more than \$11 billion in corporate welfare tax handouts that Congress retroactively renewed earlier this year for Hollywood TV and film companies, rum distillers, and even more.

Legislation like this rigs the system for the powerful and connected few at the expense of everyone else, and undermines what little trust Americans have in our political institutions and elected officials. The corrosive impact that the routine renewal of these carve outs has on our economy was one of the problems that tax reform was intended to fix.

The best way to promote economic growth is by continuing to remove barriers to opportunity like high taxes and burdensome regulations so that businesses are able to thrive by providing value for their customers, not vying for handouts from taxpayers. Tax extenders have no place in a post-tax reform world.

Members of both parties have spoken out forcefully against corporate welfare in recent weeks. We urge Congress to come together and start restoring trust with taxpayers by allowing these tax extenders to remain expired, and then continue work to root out and rid the tax code of all forms of corporate welfare.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner
Chief Government Affairs Officer
Americans for Prosperity

Nathan Nascimento
Executive Vice President
Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce