



March 12, 2019

Dear Members of Congress:

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 tax extender legislation, such as the Tax Extender and Disaster Relief Act of 2019.

For decades, well-connected special-interests have been reaping the benefits of a corrupt tax code that picks winners and losers and pads the pockets of Washington lobbyists at the expense of ordinary Americans. These tax loopholes and carve-outs allow preferred industries to who ultimately foot the bill in the form of corporate welfare.

Continuing to renew special-interest tax giveaways on a temporary and often-retroactive basis is bad tax, fiscal, and economic policy. Americans across the country, including lawmakers from both sides of the aisle, have rightfully decried the billions of dollars in corporate welfare previously given to politically-connected special-interests. The billions more that are up for renewal in the tax extender package are no different.

This proposal includes tens of billions in special tax credits, deductions, and carve-outs 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 last year for Hollywood TV and film companies, rum distillers, and 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, such as 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.

It is time to end this counterproductive cycle once and for all. We urge members of Congress to come together and start restoring trust with taxpayers by allowing these tax extenders to remain expired, and then continue working to root out and rid the tax code of all forms of corporate welfare.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner
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