

VERN BUCHANAN
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SOCIAL SECURITY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0916

November 14, 2016

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader McConnell:

I write to urge that Congress capitalize on the historic opportunity to fundamentally overhaul the U.S. tax code and jumpstart the economy.

President-Elect Donald Trump as well as House and Senate Republicans support reforming the tax code, presenting a rare and golden moment for tax reform.

The tax code punishes ordinary Americans and suffocates business growth. It's time to fix the economy by simplifying the tax code and reducing rates on individuals and businesses.

People have been looking at their bank account balance with a knot in their stomach for too long.

Tax reform will help Americans get a job, make more money and spend less time doing their taxes. It's time to give the American people a break – we have suffered together through years of slow growth. In fact, the Obama presidency did not see economic growth higher than 3 percent at any time.

Small businesses – which account for 94 percent of all businesses in America – deserve serious attention. The principles of my Main Street Fairness Act, which would ensure that small businesses never pay a higher tax rate than large corporations, should be a prominent feature of any tax code changes. I was very encouraged when my bill was included in the House Republican blueprint for tax reform and am hopeful that that blueprint will serve as a starting point for tax reform.

The concept my bill is also part of the tax cut package pushed by President-elect Donald Trump. It's clearly time that Washington stopped punishing small businesses and started helping them. The businesses that would be helped by my plan account for more than 68 million jobs.

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Significant changes to our tax system that put money in the pockets of Americans and save them time and headaches when filling out their taxes need to happen quickly.

Congress needs to take advantage of this rare opportunity to pass sweeping tax reforms.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vern Buchanan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress