

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

January 30, 2014

The Honorable Dave Camp
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
1106 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Camp and Ranking Member Levin:

We write to encourage you to include an extension of the state and local sales tax deduction in any tax extenders package the Committee may consider. Extending the sales tax deduction is critical to ensuring equal tax treatment for residents of states that do not collect an income tax.

As you know, the sales tax deduction expired on January 1, 2014. This means a disproportionate number of Americans will shoulder a larger share of the federal tax burden if the deduction is not extended.

More than 20 percent of our nation's population resides in Alaska, Florida, Nevada, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, and Wyoming, which do not have a state income tax. Instead, these states have opted for a substantial sales tax to finance state and local services. Since residents of these states cannot claim the deduction for state income taxes, extending the sales tax deduction will ensure that millions of Americans are not punished for their state's preferred tax structure.


The sales tax deduction plays a vital role in our states' economies, spurring growth and creating jobs. Congress restored the deduction ten years ago in the "American Jobs Creation Act of 2004" and since then, the deduction has been extended four times with bipartisan support.

While we will continue our push to make this deduction permanent, we urge you and other Members of the Committee to maintain fairness and certainty in the tax code by extending the sales tax deduction. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Doc Hastings
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress


Kay Granger
Member of Congress


David P. Roe
Member of Congress



John Carter
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress

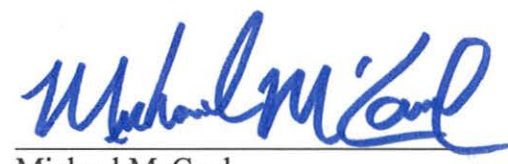

Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress


Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress


Blake Farenthold
Member of Congress

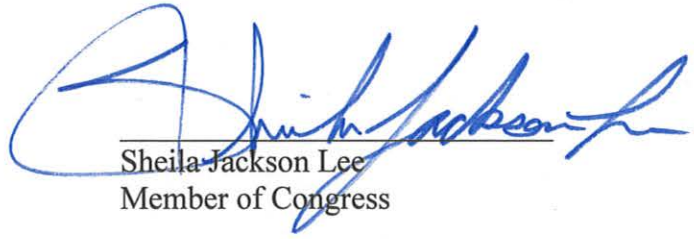

Joe Heck
Member of Congress


Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress


Michael McCaul
Member of Congress

51


Ander Crenshaw
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



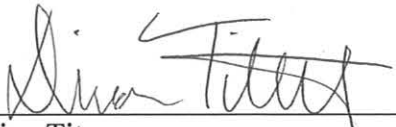
Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



Kristi Noem
Member of Congress



Stephen Fincher
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Randy Neugebauer
Member of Congress




Richard B. Nugent
Member of Congress



Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



Gene Green
Member of Congress



Roger Williams
Member of Congress



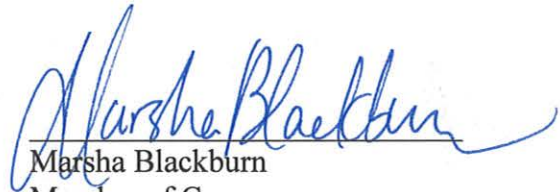
Steve Stockman
Member of Congress



John Culberson
Member of Congress



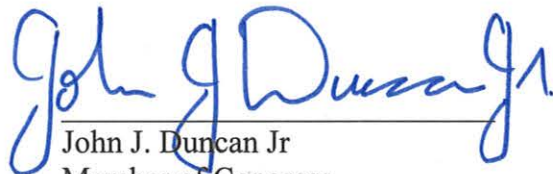
Mark Amodei
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



John J. Duncan Jr
Member of Congress



Ralph M. Hall
Member of Congress



Michael Conaway
Member of Congress



Ted Yoho
Member of Congress



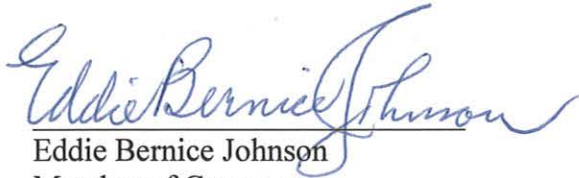
Cynthia M. Lummis
Member of Congress



Pete Olson
Member of Congress



Pete Sessions
Member of Congress



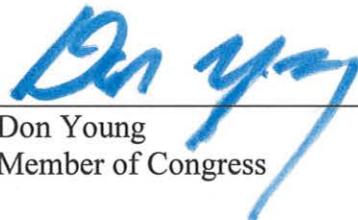
Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Charles Fleischmann
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith
Member of Congress



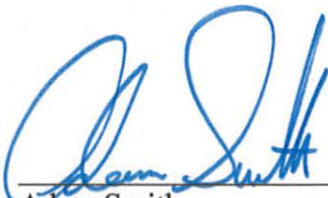
Don Young
Member of Congress



Ruben Hinojosa
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



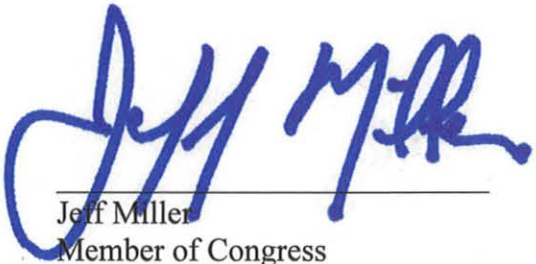
Jim Cooper
Member of Congress



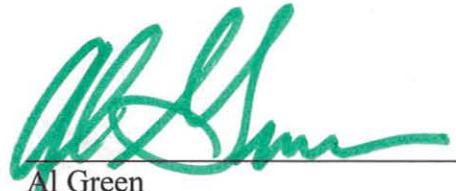
Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



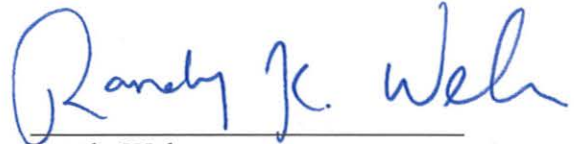
Jeff Miller
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



Randy Weber
Member of Congress



Bill Flores
Member of Congress



Patrick Murphy
Member of Congress



Dennis Ross
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Marc Veasey
Member of Congress



Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress



Steve Southerland II
Member of Congress

Signers of the letter include:

Alaska:

U.S. Representative Don Young (R-AK)

Florida:

U.S. Representative Ander Crenshaw (R-FL)
U.S. Representative Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)
U.S. Representative Jeff B. Miller (R-FL)
U.S. Representative Patrick Murphy (D-FL)
U.S. Representative Richard B. Nugent (R-FL)
U.S. Representative Bill Posey (R-FL)
U.S. Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)
U.S. Representative Dennis A. Ross (R-FL)
U.S. Representative Steve Southerland II (R-FL)
U.S. Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)
U.S. Representative Ted Yoho (R-FL)

Nevada:

U.S. Representative Mark Amodei (R-NV)
U.S. Representative Joseph J. Heck (R-NV)
U.S. Representative Steven Horsford (D-NV)
U.S. Representative Dina Titus (D-NV)

South Dakota:

U.S. Representative Kristi L. Noem (R-SD)

Tennessee:

U.S. Representative Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)
U.S. Representative Steve Cohen (D-TN)
U.S. Representative Jim Cooper (D-TN)
U.S. Representative John J. Duncan Jr. (R-TN)
U.S. Representative Steven Fincher (R-TN)
U.S. Representative Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN)
U.S. Representative David P. Roe (R-TN)

Texas:

U.S. Representative John R. Carter (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Mike Conaway (R-TX)
U.S. Representative John A. Culberson (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Blake Farenthold (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Bill Flores (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Louie Gohmert (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Kay Granger (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Al Green (D-TX)
U.S. Representative Gene Green (D-TX)
U.S. Representative Ralph M. Hall (R-TX)

U.S. Representative Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX)
U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)
U.S. Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)
U.S. Representative Michael McCaul (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Randy Neugebauer (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Pete Olsen (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Beto O'Rourke (D-TX)
U.S. Representative Pete Sessions (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Lamar S. Smith (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Steve Stockman (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Marc Veasey (D-TX)
U.S. Representative Randy Weber (R-TX)
U.S. Representative Roger Williams (R-TX)

Washington:

U.S. Representative Suzan DelBene (D-WA)
U.S. Representative Doc Hastings (R-WA)
U.S. Representative Denny Heck (D-WA)
U.S. Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)
U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer (D-WA)
U.S. Representative Rick Larsen (D-WA)
U.S. Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA)
U.S. Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)
U.S. Representative Adam Smith (D-WA)

Wyoming:

U.S. Representative Cynthia Lummis (R-WY)