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

November 15, 2011

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

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

Dear Chairman Camp and Ranking Member Levin:

Important principles of tax policy are certainty and predictability. These principles are necessary to ensure that taxpayers have confidence in and can rely on policies that have long been part of the tax code, while at the same time improving compliance with our tax laws.

In this regard, Congress has an obligation to taxpayers to extend federal tax policies that are scheduled to expire at the end of 2011. Allowing these provisions to lapse will have an immediate negative impact on our nation's economy and jobs, further weakening public confidence in recovery and the government.

Extending the expiring provisions will provide taxpayers with the certainty they need to make forward-looking decisions. Moreover, the economic benefits of these tax incentives are well known. Whether generating investment in communities, promoting research and development or supporting small business, these tax provisions are an important element in generating economic growth and creating jobs.

It is also important to note that most of the expiring tax provisions are longstanding policies that have broad, bipartisan support. All tax policies should be carefully examined in the context of future debates around tax reform and simplification. However, until that time, Congress must act to extend the expiring tax provisions, restoring a measure of certainty and predictability.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

Cc:
Hon. Charles B. Rangel
Hon. Pete Stark
Hon. Jim McDermott
Hon. John Lewis

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