

HELP CHANGE THE TAX CUT BILL

Sample letter

I am writing to express deep concern over the provisions in the proposed TAX CUT legislation in Congress and am asking that you take action to make changes to make sure it benefits all – especially the working and middle class and not just the wealthy, and that it does not harm the social safety net for those most in need – particularly children and the elderly - in order to pay for it.

The bill overwhelming benefits the wealthy and large corporations and it is not the tax cut for the working and middle class Americans and small businesses that was promised.

In my support of nonprofit agencies like *The Center for Youth and Family Solutions* which serves 20,000 people a year in need in 37 counties in Illinois and Iowa, I see the importance of investing in the future of our children every day and breaking destructive cycles of poverty so these children can have futures full of hope and potential – which is not only good for them – but good for all of us. The following provisions in this bill will hurt us all:

- Eliminating the Individual Mandate for health insurance will cut coverage for 13 million and will disrupt the Health Care system and raise rates for all.
- Reducing Itemized Deductions for Charitable Donations hurts all agencies serving those in need.
- The related plans for defunding or cutting critical safety net programs for the poor and working class to pay for it are simply unjust.

Of grave concern is that the **Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)** remains unfunded, there are proposed cuts to the **SNAP** food stamp program, and there are already announced plans to cut **Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security**.

Eliminating the Individual Mandate will mean 13 million people will be uninsured and rates are estimated to go up by 10% for all. The historically bi-partisan supported CHIP program funds critical health services for nearly 10 million children and expecting mothers. The SNAP program helps serve the 50 million Americans who go hungry every night – and 17 million are children. Medicaid and Medicare serve over 122 million people in need each year. Experts predict charities across the United States **could lose \$95 billion** needed dollars serving those most in need with the Itemized Deduction change.

While I support efforts to grow the economy for the wellbeing of all, cutting taxes and having the poor and working class pay for it is not the way to do it in a just and moral society.

- **Please enact a universal above the line tax deductible donation for charities.**
- **Please enact tax reform that truly benefits the working and middle class families who need it most.**
- **Please do not harm the critical safety net programs and health care programs needed by the most vulnerable children, disabled, and elderly poor.**

Sincerely,
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