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H.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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JANICE MAYS, MINORITY CHIEF COUNSEL

October 23, 2013

Chairman Dave Camp Committee on Ways and Means 1102 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Camp:

The recent government shutdown and a near default ground our legislative system to a halt and undermined the confidence of the American people in their government. For this reason, we renew our call to work in a bipartisan manner to craft thoughtful tax reform legislation.

Comprehensive tax reform must be the product of a bipartisan process. The Tax Reform Working Groups set the Committee off to a good start, and began the process of Republican and Democratic Members on the Committee digging into the substance of current law. The next step is to discuss tax reform legislation together.

We acknowledge that our approaches to tax reform have significant differences. We believe that everyone should pay their fair share of taxes. For example, the Joint Committee on Taxation estimates that lowering the top individual and corporate tax rates to 25 percent and eliminating the alternative minimum tax, as proposed in the House-passed budget, would cost more than \$5 trillion. In setting any rate, it is vital to determine what effective policies should be reflected in our tax code.

The last three weeks have made it clear that the only path for passage of comprehensive legislation in the House is one that garners a governing majority through Republican and Democratic votes. In order to make the difficult task of tax reform a reality, it is essential to sit down and earnestly discuss tax policies that will strengthen American families and enhance U.S. competitiveness. Sincerely,

The Honorable Sander Levin

he Honorable Jim McDermott

The Honorable Richard E. Neal

The Honorable Lloyd Doggett

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The Honorable John B. Larson

The Honorable Ron Kind

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel

The Honorable John Lewis

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The Honorable Xavier Becerra

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The Honorable Earl Blumenauer

The Honorable Bill Pascrell Jr.

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The Honorable Danny K. Davis

The Honorable Linda T. Sánchez