

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

**IT IS TIME TO SCRAP THE TAX CODE**  
**CONGRESS MUST ADDRESS FUNDAMENTAL TAX REFORM**

June 8, 2006

Dear Colleague:

At a time when Americans devote a total of 7.4 billion hours each year to comply with the tax code, we need tax simplification. Today's tax code is unfair, discourages savings and investment, and is impossibly complex. It has become all too clear that the current code is broken beyond repair and cannot be fixed so we must start over.

Just like other programs that require reauthorization, the tax code must be reviewed to examine whether it is fulfilling its intended purpose and then Congress must make what changes are necessary.

Many Members made notable proposals to reform taxation in America. However, before we can address these proposals we must agree to terminate our current tax code and create the proper environment for debate on this topic- an environment that requires Members to make choices about what a new tax code would look like.

To address this issue, we have introduced legislation that would terminate our broken tax code. H.R. 4725, the Tax Code Termination Act will accomplish two goals. It will abolish the Internal Revenue Code by December 31, 2009, and call on Congress to approve a new federal tax system by July of the same year.

Similar legislation has already been passed twice by the House of Representatives, first in 1998 by a vote of 219-209 and then in 2000 by a vote of 229-187. We must show the American people that Congress is serious about fundamental tax reform, and once again urge passage of this important legislation.

Although many questions remain about the best way to reform our tax system, we are certain that if Congress is forced to address the issue we can create a tax code that is simpler, fairer, and better for our economy than the one we are forced to comply with today. Congress won't reach a consensus on such a contentious issue unless it is forced to do so. The Tax Code Termination Act will force Congress to finally debate and address fundamental tax reform.

We urge our colleagues to join the 51 current cosponsors of the Tax Code Termination Act and end the broken tax system that exists in our country. If you have any questions or would like to cosponsor, please contact Carrie Meadows with Rep. Goodlatte at 5-5431 or Mark Brownell with Rep. Peterson at 5-2165.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte  
Member of Congress



Collin Peterson  
Member of Congress