



News from

# Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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## Kind Pushes Tax Fairness for Family Farmers

**Washington, DC** – Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) today joined a bipartisan majority in passing H.R. 976, *the Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2007*, legislation he cosponsored that will help grow small businesses in western Wisconsin, and ensure that family farmers receive adequate credit for the Social Security and Medicare taxes that they pay.

Right now, if a farm owned by a married couple files as a sole proprietorship (instead of a partnership), only one spouse receives credit for paying Social Security and Medicare taxes. This bill allows both spouses to receive credit for the Social Security and Medicare taxes they pay while under a sole proprietorship. Filing for a partnership can be a costly and time consuming process, and this bill allows both spouses the security that comes with Social Security and Medicare benefits, without the extra burden.

“We all know that running a family farm is no small task – the whole family pitches in to make it work,” Rep. Kind said. “And every family member should receive the security and benefits they deserve. This bill ensures tax fairness for family farmers by allowing both spouses running a farm to receive credit for the taxes they pay, and ensures that in the event of a tragedy, or simply in old age, both of them are taken care of.”

Overall, H.R. 976 provides \$1.3 billion in tax cuts targeted to small business over the next ten years. The cost of these tax cuts is entirely offset by provisions that would increase federal revenues by \$1.4 billion over that time.

The bill's tax cuts include:

- Providing a one-year extension for deductions on small-business expenses, and increasing the amount these businesses can deduct;
- Extending for one year the tax credit for employers who hire certain disadvantaged workers; and
- Ensuring that an increase in the minimum wage would not reduce the current "tip credit" for restaurant employers.

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“Small businesses are the engine of America's economy, representing more than ninety-five percent of all employers, creating half of our gross domestic product, and creating three out of four new jobs nationwide,” Rep. Kind said. “If the United States is going to continue to have a strong economy, we must give small businesses every opportunity to succeed, and this bill provides the right tax opportunities for positive growth for small businesses.”

This is the first bill sent to the floor from the House Committee on Ways and Means, which Rep. Kind was appointed to in January.