



August 2, 2012

Dear Representative:

The National Women's Law Center urges you to oppose H.R. 6169. The bill would provide for expedited consideration of tax reform legislation only on the condition that it includes additional massive tax cuts for high-income households and corporations.

Under H.R. 6169, tax reform legislation would have to replace the current personal income tax rates with just two rates, 10 percent and 25 percent (or less); reduce the statutory corporate income tax rate by about 30 percent, dropping from the current 35 percent to no more than 25 percent; and adopt a territorial tax system which would exempt offshore profits of United States multinational corporations from domestic taxes.

The tax cuts proposed in this legislation are similar to those in the 2013 Ryan budget and would give the wealthiest households even larger tax cuts that they receive from the Bush-era cuts. The Tax Policy Center has calculated that under the Ryan budget, in 2015, those making \$1 million or more would enjoy an average tax cut of \$265,000 on top of what they get from the Bush-era tax cuts. In contrast, those making between \$20,000 and \$30,000 would get an average tax cut of \$129 from the tax cuts proposed in the Ryan budget and H.R. 6169, and half of the people in that lower income bracket would get no tax cut at all.

The "tax reform" plan in H.R. 6169 is fiscally irresponsible as well as unfair. Neither it nor the Ryan budget identifies cuts in tax credits, exclusions, or deductions to offset the cost of the tax rate cuts for individuals – \$3.2 trillion over ten years, including the elimination of the Alternative Minimum Tax – and corporations – \$1.1 trillion. As a result, either middle- and low-income families would have to pay a larger share of taxes, programs vital to women and families would have to be severely cut – or budget deficits would soar.

Women have a particular stake in ensuring that those with the greatest ability to pay contribute their fair share of taxes, because taxes provide the revenues needed to protect and strengthen programs vital to women and their families at every stage of their lives. Women disproportionately rely on programs funded by federal revenues to protect their health, access higher education, obtain quality child care, meet their basic needs, and achieve a secure retirement. A wide range of domestic programs have already been cut in the name of deficit reduction and deeper cuts are scheduled to take effect next year, but the very wealthiest and corporations have not been asked to contribute a penny in additional revenues.

The National Women's Law Center believes it is time to begin restoring fairness to the tax code and balance to fiscal policy, while protecting critical services for women and families. H.R. 6169 would put the nation on a fast track in the opposite direction.

We urge you to vote no on H.R. 6169.

Sincerely,



Nancy Duff Campbell
Co-President



Joan Entmacher
Vice President, Family Economic Security