

**President Donald Trump**  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

**Dear President Trump,**

My name is Kym Kettler, and I am an American citizen currently living overseas in Hong Kong. I am writing to urge you to include the RNC's **Resolution on Territorial Taxation for Individuals** into the **Tax Reform Package** currently under review by the House Ways and Means Committee.

You are entirely correct when you state that the American tax code has grown out of control. Overseas Americans bear the full brunt of this complexity. The United States is the only developed country that implements a system of citizenship based taxation (CBT) which requires overseas Americans to pay taxes both to their host country and to the United States. This system creates huge complexity and inequity due to the overlapping tax systems being applied to any American living overseas. Isn't it time that we implemented a tax code for the 21<sup>st</sup> century and moved away from a taxation system shared only by the State of Eritrea?

Territorial Taxation for Individuals is an ***America first*** platform:

- **Territorial Taxation for Individuals is tax-revenue positive because it eliminates current loopholes that allow wealthy foreigners not resident in the United States to generate substantial income in the United States without paying their fair share of tax.** Under the current tax system, wealthy foreigners can buy and sell businesses and assets in the United States and invest in stocks and bonds and pay little or no tax on the gains.
- **Territorial Taxation for Individuals would allow for an increase of American exports.** Overseas Americans are the most effective advocates for and exporters of American-made goods and services. However, due to CBT, Americans working overseas are at least 35% more expensive to hire than their foreign counterparts. Territorial Taxation would make employing Americans oversea more affordable, and more Americans working overseas will lead to more exports of American goods and services. An increase in American exports leads to more American jobs at home in America as well.
- **Territorial Taxation for individuals will attract skilled immigration to the U.S. and support the RAISE ACT.** Worldwide Taxation inhibits skilled immigration to the U.S. as doing so has serious tax implications for these individuals' foreign businesses and income. Territorial Taxation will draw skilled immigrants who can then recreate their business successes within the US and create more American jobs. Without addressing the worldwide tax implications for skilled immigrants, the United States will not be able to effectively compete in the global marketplace for top talent. Without addressing the worldwide tax implications, any renewed push for skilled immigration will encounter very significant challenges.

- **Territorial Taxation would end the discriminatory costs of tax compliance on overseas Americans.** Overseas Americans pay extremely high costs to file their American tax returns as a result of CBT and FATCA ('Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act').

Territorial Taxation is an **American first** policy, but it is also important on a personal level: it is an **American citizen first** policy.

Before moving to Hong Kong, I worked in The Netherlands. It cost me about €150 / \$180 to have my Dutch tax return prepared, but it cost me €750 / \$895 to have my US tax return prepared. This outrageous cost was based on a very simple tax return that only included a salary and did not include any property or deductions of any kind, except for the Foreign Earned Income Exclusion.

Now that I live in Hong Kong, I would like to set up a freelance writing business, but the US taxation system is burdensome. If I work as a freelancer, I will need to pay Hong Kong taxes, fill out a US tax return and possibly pay US taxes, and definitely pay a 15.3% US self-employment tax that is not offset by either the Foreign Earned Income Exclusion or the Foreign Tax Credit. It will cost a minimum of \$500 to have US tax returns prepared in Hong Kong. At some point, it simply becomes too expensive and complex to bother setting up a small business.

I urge you on both a personal level and for the good of our country as a whole to include Territorial Taxation for Individuals in the Tax Reform Package. I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Should you be interested in further details, I can be reached at [sample.email@email.com](mailto:sample.email@email.com) .

Sincerely,

Kym Kettler

[sample.email@email.com](mailto:sample.email@email.com)

cc: Senator Tammy Duckworth  
Senator Richard Durbin  
Congressman Mike Quigley