September 13, 2018

Dear Representative:

As Co-Chairs of the Fiscal Policy Task Force of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), we urge you to oppose the new “Tax Reform 2.0” package that is being marked up today in the House Ways and Means Committee. We believe this plan - released only this week - to make permanent many parts of last year’s tax law would be very harmful to people with disabilities.

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities is the nation’s largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for national public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society.

Tax Reform 2.0 doubles down on last year’s tax law, further depleting federal revenue that is desperately needed to fund Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and many other essential programs that people with disabilities rely on to live independently in the community. Tax reform 2.0 should be about undoing the harm from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, not extending its mistakes.

According to the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) and the Tax Policy Center (TPC), the extension would cut taxes by about $640 billion in the 10-year budget window from 2019-2028. However, the bulk of the cuts occur in the last three years of this budget window. The TPC estimates that the true cost of the plan is much higher, as it would cost an additional $3.2 trillion in the decade following the 10-year budget window. This would come on top of the JCT’s estimate of $1.9 trillion that last year’s tax law is already expected to cost when factoring for higher interest payments.

Such substantial revenue losses are not only irresponsible, but certain to be felt acutely by millions of Americans with disabilities whose health and wellbeing depend on proper funding of public programs. We urge you to reject this harmful plan.

Sincerely,

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