



November 16, 2017

Speaker Paul Ryan
H-232 The Capitol
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Kevin Brady
Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth HOB
Washington D.C. 20515

CC: Majority Leader McCarthy and Majority Whip Steve Scalise

Speaker Ryan and Chairman Brady:

Thank you for your leadership in passing the *Tax Cuts & Jobs Act*, H.R. 1, which lowers taxes on the middle class, simplifies the code, reduces taxes on pass-through businesses, and permanently ends the estate tax.

This bill was passed under regular order with the open input of House members. We thank you for listening to members of Congress and the committee like Congresswoman Kristi Noem (R-SD) whose Death Tax Repeal Act was included in the legislation.

Repealing the hated death tax is a welcome change to family business owners and farmers across the country who hope to pass their businesses on to their children. The death tax is a confiscatory tax that strikes grieving families at their most vulnerable time with a 40 percent tax when a business owner dies. Inventory-heavy small businesses like suppliers, distributors, and farmers who are traditionally cash poor are disproportionately affected by the death tax.

This bill combines historic middle class tax relief with powerful pro-growth tax cuts for small businesses. We look forward to working with you to get tax reform to the President's desk.

The Family Business Coalition is a diverse collection of organizations and industry groups united for the common purpose of protecting America's family businesses across the country. Our members represent family businesses from many different industries including suppliers, wholesalers, manufacturers, car dealers, distributors, farmers, ranchers and many other industries with heavy family business ownership. The Family Business Coalition works to implement tax policies that help family businesses of all sizes employ more people and continue to the next generation.