



Thomas A. Schatz
President

March 15, 2007

Representative Jeb Hensarling
Chairman
Republican Study Committee
132 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Hensarling,

On behalf of the more than 1.2 million members and supporters of the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste (CCAGW), I am writing in support of the Republican Study Committee's (RSC) *American Taxpayer Bill of Rights*.

Since our founding in 1984, CCAGW has advocated for a small, accountable, and efficient federal government. The RSC's four principles that state "taxpayers have a right to have a federal government that does not grow beyond their ability to pay for it; taxpayers have a right to receive back each dollar that they entrust to the government for their retirement; taxpayers have a right to expect their government to balance the budget without having their taxes raised; and taxpayers have the right to a simple, fair tax code that they can understand" are sound and should be adopted by Congress.

CCAGW agrees that the problem with the deficit and the debt is not that Americans pay too little in taxes; it is that Congress spends too much. It is time for Congress to reform entitlement programs such as Social Security and Medicare so they are saved for future generations. These programs are growing at a rapid rate and if not fixed, will reach 20 percent of the gross national product by 2050.

We applaud the RSC's efforts to fight for a simple and fair tax code that is easy to understand and doesn't require a Ph.D. in accounting to figure out. The tax code's inconsistency and complexity leads to confusion and frustration when Americans file their taxes. Plus, the code as written provides too many opportunities for Congress to create winners and losers when writing legislation.

Your leadership in bringing forward the RSC's plan is greatly appreciated. Please let CCAGW know how we can assist you in achieving the worthwhile goals listed in the *American Taxpayer Bill of Rights*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Schatz". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

cc: U.S. House of Representatives

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