



AMERICANS  
*for* TAX REFORM

December 11, 2009

To: All Members of the U.S. House of Representatives  
Re: Urging Support for H.R. 4249, the CORE Spending Act

Dear Congressman:

**I write to urge you to become a co-sponsor of H.R. 4249, the “CORE Spending Act,” sponsored by Congressman Patrick McHenry (R-NC).**

This bill establishes a bipartisan commission to recommend comprehensive changes to federal spending programs and the tax code **WITHOUT** the fatal flaw (a guaranteed tax increase) other similar House bills have had in the past.

In light of the dire current fiscal situation, calls for establishing such a commission have been getting louder. On the senate side, Senators Judd Gregg (R-NH) and Kent Conrad (D-ND) have introduced a bill which may seem innocuous at first glance. However, given the way it structures its bipartisan tax and spending reform commission and procedures to vote on its recommendations, the bill would lead to a guaranteed tax increase. Similarly flawed proposals have been proposed on the House side by Congressman Frank Wolf (R-VA).

**Congressman McHenry’s bill avoids this deadly trap by incorporating an explicit prohibition of a tax increase as part of the commission’s proposal:**

*LIMITATION- The legislation developed under this subsection may not include any new, or any increase in an existing, Federal tax.*

**I urge you to co-sponsor and otherwise support H.R. 4249, and steer clear of any bills creating similar bipartisan commissions without explicit language removing tax increases and/or new taxes from commission consideration.**

If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Ellis in my office at [rellis@atr.org](mailto:rellis@atr.org).

Sincerely,

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