

January 29, 2025

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
531 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cliff Bentz  
409 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici  
2231 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Andrea Salinas  
109 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Val Hoyle  
1620 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Janelle Bynum  
1508 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maxine Dexter  
1207 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wyden, Senator Merkley, Representative Bentz, Representative Bonamici, Representative Salinas, Representative Hoyle, Representative Bynum, and Representative Dexter:

Congratulations on your election to the 119th Congress. As you know, the incoming Administration and Congressional Majority have made plans to prioritize extending and potentially expanding the 2017 Trump tax law (*Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, TCJA*), which is set to expire. We urge you to use the expiration of these provisions as an opportunity to address long-standing inequities with our tax code and to raise more revenue to meet our country's current obligations and address critical unmet needs.

No matter what you look like or where you're from, we all believe in caring for our families and community. Everyone in our state, from teachers and school staff, delivery drivers, nurses, care workers, and farm workers, to volunteers at the local food pantry and senior center, all work hard to make Oregon a prosperous state and are watching what happens in Congress. Regardless of who we voted for in November, Americans did not vote to give another tax cut to the wealthy or to give corporations another tax cut.

The 2017 tax law failed and the new Administration has no mandate to repeat the mistakes of the past.

- The proponents of these tax cuts said big corporate tax cuts would trickle down to big increases in wages for workers – but the typical worker got nothing from it.
- They said the bill would pay for itself—in fact, it increased the deficit by \$2 trillion.
- They said the tax cuts would create jobs but the evidence doesn't show that.

If Congress decides to give new corporate tax cuts and extend other provisions of the TCJA, the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget says it would increase deficits by about \$7.5 trillion over 10 years. We also know that President-elect Trump's tax plan will

favor the rich. The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy found that it will lead “to a tax cut for the richest 5 percent of Americans and a tax *increase* for the other 95 percent of Americans.”

Americans want you to meet the moment and put our future ahead of tax cuts for the wealthy and well-connected. Oregon residents prioritize funding services and taxing the wealthy by a wide, bipartisan margin. According to recent research:

- 81% of state residents support raising taxes on wealthy corporations
- 81% of state residents support raising taxes on the wealthiest households
- 81% of state residents support raising taxes on households earning more than \$400,000 a year
- 75% of state residents support increasing child tax credits

Our collective organizations work every day to reduce poverty and racial disparities, expand economic opportunity, strengthen our public education system, create good union jobs, and mitigate the effects of climate change. Our mission is to move Oregon and the nation toward justice and equity, and that speaks directly to the importance of how Congress acts on taxes next year.

The tax code is one of our most powerful tools to shape the economy but has too often been used to divide us. For too long, it has been slanted towards the wealthy and large corporations, and the economy, our country, and, as a result, communities and families in Oregon have suffered. The expiration of key provisions of the Trump tax bill in 2025 is a rare opportunity to unite the vast majority of people who want to correct long-standing inequity in our tax code, and help produce an economy that works for all Americans.

Sincerely,

American Federation of Teachers - Oregon

APANO Communities United Fund

Children’s Institute

Coalition of Communities of Color

Family Forward

Oregon Center for Public Policy

Our Children Oregon

Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon

Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN)

Rural Organizing Project

SEIU Oregon

Tax Fairness Oregon