

Dear Rep Adrian Smith and Rep John Larson,

I am writing to ask that the Financial Services Tax Committee of the Ways & Means Committee for Tax Reform to repeal or revise the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) that is destroying the community of Americans working overseas.

As my 3 children are part of nearly 7 million American citizens living, working and voting from abroad, and contributing to the economic growth of the U.S. economy, FATCA legislation along with FBAR (Foreign Bank Account Report) is having serious negative consequences for those working abroad and for the US economy.

**American citizens have become pariahs in the international financial community because of FATCA and are being denied financial tools essential for survival.**

**Business opportunities for Americans overseas are blocked due to the 10% American ownership reporting threshold for start-ups and business ventures.**

**Foreigners are backing away from investments in the US due to the increased oversight, risks and dangers of financial reporting in the United States.**

**FATCA creates a new barrier to Americans and U.S. exports as companies, start-ups are loath to hire Americans or deal with Americans due to increased exposure to the IRS/Treasury and reporting requirements**

**FATCA creates systemic risks for the entire international financial community.**

**FATCA puts Americans working overseas at personal and financial risk due to unsecured data transfer of highly sensitive financial and personal information.**

**Some Americans living abroad appreciate their freedom to invest at home (states) should they eventually want to return. They object, however, that FATCA has made it a requirement since they are now prevented from investing in the country where they live. FATCA has also made it impossible for dual nationals or foreigners residing in the States from investing in their country. FATCA needs to be modified so that it does not interfere with people's need to invest in the country where they live/and or hope to retire!**

I have been personally affected by this situation. My Children have their employment opportunities and investment opportunities restricted in Switzerland, where they live, as they are American/Swiss. It is ludicrous that they are permitted by the Swiss institutions to maintain their retirement funds in what equates to a savings account only! We are dual nationals, and not treated equal to our Swiss compatriots who are not American. Because I live in the States my Swiss bank requested that I close my account, from which I pay the Swiss bills related to a small flat I maintain there. In addition, I invested in the flat thinking should I ever need the funds I could borrow against it (I am retired). However, since FATCA I can no longer obtain a mortgage as long as I am a resident in the US, even as a Swiss citizen! I can no longer obtain Swiss insurance or investment products as long as I remain an American citizen! My

children want the same opportunities as their Swiss compatriots and do not want to be saddled with restrictions on their employment and investment opportunities. One has already renounced her citizenship and one of others is on the waiting list for the appointment to do so. They each speak 4-5 languages and are well educated...they could be valuable assets as Americans. If FATCA is not amended there is little option for young dual nationals but to renounce their citizenship. Hopefully it will be amended before it is too late for my two remaining "American" children. It is not yet clear whether or not my staying in the States will complicate the lives of my children as the banks are yet undecided as to how far they must "control", ie restrict, connections with the States. If necessary, then I too must renounce US citizenship and move back to Switzerland.

I have good friends, a Swiss man married to an American/Swiss woman. He is retiring this year and his Swiss employer has restricted the investment of his pension funds to the equivalent of a savings account due to the fact his wife is American and one day may be a recipient! For her to renounce her citizenship they will have to sell their house in order for her to pay the exit tax. The house represents an enormous capital gain as it was purchased 30 years ago. The house is in joint name, and was paid for from the Swiss husband's salary. It is too late for this couple, but Swiss will think twice before marrying an American today or before putting any asset in joint name with an American spouse.

Please repeal or revise FATCA and seriously consider the RBT proposal submitted by American Citizens Abroad (ACA). A move towards a residence-based system, like the rest of the world, would resolve the issues of FATCA and FBAR while creating a simpler and fairer system for Americans living abroad and increasing more tax revenue than the current system, which wastes compliance resources for very little return. Residence-based taxation will resolve the problems for Americans living abroad.

Modifications would still be required to provide foreign citizens living in the States with the same rights to invest and maintain bank accounts in the country of their citizenship(s) as Americans living abroad have to invest in the States.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Cammack