

ATTN: International Tax Reform Working Group

Dear Representative Nunes and Blumenaur,

I am writing to ask that the International Taxation Committee of the Ways & Means Committee for Tax Reform seriously consider the ACA proposal for reform to Residency-based taxation RBT.

Their proposal can be seen at the below link:

<http://americansabroad.org/files/6513/6370/3681/finalsubrbtmarch2013.pdf>

As one of nearly 7 million American citizens living, working and voting from abroad, and contributing to the economic growth of the U.S. economy, I believe the current Citizenship based taxation regime must be reformed.

Instead of discussing the complexity, cost, or the punitive penalties due to errors in trying to comply to the US tax code; I will instead point out a few examples of how Citizenship based taxation and the regulations that come with it has affected me while living in Switzerland:

- I have been denied any form of retirement / pension account or plan (i.e. a foreign version of a 401k or IRA)
- I have been denied multiple times to have a securities account for bonds and stocks, as foreign banks have told me that Americans are a significant compliance risk
- I have been denied a mortgage to own a home
- I have been denied a student loan to pursue further post-graduate education in Europe, and now rely on my own saving and parents
- And lastly, all banks I've visited in the US will not open an account for me with a foreign address

Furthermore, what has hit me the hardest is a particular situation when I was attending a part-time MBA program in Switzerland. One of the many goals of an MBA student, including mine, is to start their own business. So, when I entered into a business plan group to draft a potential business proposal, (which all members were non-US citizens except for me), I was told that they preferred that I withdrew my participation due to the FATCA compliance burden and account disclosures that I would face and be placed upon the group if the business plan was implemented. This has left me at a significant disadvantage compared to my European classmates.

All these points have happened not due to my financial situation, work history or own fault, but due to the over burdensome and unfair reporting requirements and regulation that accompany Citizenship-base taxation.

Please seriously consider the RBT proposal submitted by American Citizens Abroad (ACA). A move towards a residence-based system, like the rest of the world, not only would it be simpler and fairer for Americans living abroad, but it would actually bring in MORE tax revenue than the current system, which wastes compliance resources for very little return. RBT would increase United States exports strongly by facilitating American mobility in the global business environment of today's world.

Yours sincerely,

David Barder