



April 28, 2014

The Honorable Dave Camp  
Chairman  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Camp and Ranking Member Levin,

On behalf of the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA), I write to share our strong support of H.R. 4457, America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2014.

NPGA is the national trade association of the propane industry, having a membership of about 3,000 companies, with 38 state and regional associations representing members in all 50 states. Our membership includes companies engaged in the retail marketing of propane gas and appliances; producers and wholesalers of propane equipment; manufacturers and distributors of propane gas appliances and equipment; fabricators of propane gas cylinders and tanks; and propane transporters. While NPGA's membership covers a broad cross-section of categories, more than 90 percent are designated as small businesses.

The small business expensing rules outlined in Section 179 of the tax code allow small business owners to immediately deduct the cost of investments in property, equipment, and computer software rather than depreciating such costs over time. This gives owners flexibility to reinvest in their business and simplifies their accounting practices.

Over the years the deduction limit has varied; this year it dropped to \$25,000 of qualifying property. H.R. 4457 would make permanent the levels effective during the 2010-2013 tax years allowing taxpayers to expense up to \$500,000 of investments in new equipment and property, with the deduction phased out after investments exceed \$2 million. Importantly, these amounts are adjusted for inflation.

Small business expensing is very important to many of NPGA's members. By allowing small businesses to immediately deduct the cost of new equipment, tax compliance is simplified and capital is freed up to invest in their businesses. NPGA supports H.R. 4457 and urges the committee to report this legislation to the full House for its consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Roldan", is written in a cursive style.

Richard Roldan  
President & Chief Executive Officer