

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. See 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. Current tax policy is negatively affecting this important sector of America and their ability to compete for jobs, grow the US economy through international business and exports, and live overseas. Current tax policy damages both individuals and the welfare of our country.

The following are some examples of the fallout on Americans working overseas from current U.S. Citizenship based taxation:

- Inability to relocate and work internationally
- Denial of job opportunities or job advancement
- Refusal of entry into business partnerships
- Closure or denial of financial instruments (pensions, insurance policies, bank accounts, etc.)
- Exposure to double taxation or increased tax burden
- Financially ruinous penalties due to broad application of criminal tax evasion regulations on those making simple filing errors due to complexity of the US tax code.

I am concerned for the impact these regulations and potential penalties will have on myself and my family members who live abroad, even those who marry into our American family and never reside in the USA. We face unduly invasive and burdensome reporting duties, beyond those of resident Americans, and in many cases the reporting requirements violate the laws of our resident countries.

I have created a petition to repeal FATCA, at <http://signon.org/sign/repeal-fatca>

As of last count, nearly 2000 people have signed and many have used this tool to write strong messages relating to their personal struggles with FATCA and their sense of its injustice. I have had many also write to me personally as the petition author, to say that they will not make a submission to you because their activism involves non-compliance and they fear harassment from the IRS, for themselves and the potential impact on their non-US family for generations to come. Others have opted to give up their US citizenship entirely, which breaks my heart.

Please seriously consider the RBT proposal submitted by American Citizens Abroad (ACA). This would undo the harm in FATCA and FBAR. 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,

Rami Schandall

[Redacted signature block]