

cannot tax the American people into economic prosperity nor can it raise enough revenue to balance the budget if it continues to spend nearly \$4 trillion a year.

Adam Michel, Policy Analyst in the Thomas A. Roe Institute at The Heritage Foundation explains:

“Holding pro-growth tax reform hostage over the deficit unwittingly makes fiscally responsible spending reforms harder. The deficit cannot be eliminated with tax increases. The notion that we can tax our way out of trouble denies the fundamental problem: The deficit is driven by uncontrolled spending. Tax reform that grows the economy can also ease the burden of paying down the debt. Robust economic growth is a necessary component of managing our debt. Pro-growth tax reform that allows for a larger and more robust economy means our debt relative to our output shrinks and makes the necessary spending reforms easier.”

Due to the self-imposed \$1.5 trillion deficit tax cut box Senate Republicans elected to put themselves in, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is not as robust as tax reform should be under a unified Republican government, but it certainly is what President Reagan would call “half a loaf.” While Congress cannot tax the country into prosperity, it can and should deliver meaningful tax reform that spurs sustainable, long-term economic growth. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is a strong step toward that end. The time for pro-growth tax reform is now.

\*\*\* Heritage Action supports the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and will include it as a key vote on our legislative scorecard. \*\*\*

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE VICTIMS OF CYBER ABUSE

#### HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 2017*

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Kati Milberg-Pavek in recognition of and in shared grief for the indefensible cyber abuse she faced following the deaths of her daughter and two nieces: Clara Diana Pavek, Lydia Marie Milberg and Laynie Jo Amos. On December 12, 2013, a terrible tragedy took the lives of three wonderful children. I was further saddened and disturbed by the unprovoked comments and harassment that the victims and their families subsequently faced on social media, as well as local news outlets and publications.

As First Lady to the United States of America, Melania Trump has declared a campaign against cyber-bullying and reckless abuse, and like her I rise to condemn the hatred by these reckless individuals. Though my words can never reverse the awful heartbreak Ms. Milberg-Pavek and her family have suffered, I hope that by speaking out against victims' abuse, we can encourage those in control of online platforms to play a more active role in monitoring these hateful attacks, especially when innocent children are involved. No one should have to endure these types of spiteful on-line comments in the wake of a loss again, and I stand with those who actively seek to provide solutions for this growing problem. My deepest sympathies are with Ms. Milberg-Pavek and her family.

HONORING MR. JOHN F.  
TRENTACOSTA

#### HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 2017*

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Trentacosta upon his retirement as President and CEO of Newtown Savings Bank in Newtown, Connecticut. For the past nineteen years, John has provided experienced and insightful leadership at Newtown Savings Bank, and his contributions have been crucial to guiding the institution through both successful and challenging economies.

John is a native of Bronx, New York, and completed his undergraduate degree at Manhattan College before going on to earn his Master of Business Administration at Iona College. He began working in finance in New York before moving with his wife Linda to Connecticut in 1988. Throughout his long and successful career in the financial industry, John has served in a number of leadership roles, such as Chief Financial Officer, for a variety of institutions. Following a decade of working at the Bank of New Haven, John joined Newtown Savings Bank in 1998, and became President in 2003 and CEO in 2009. His experience and leadership have been instrumental in continuing the organization's success for the future.

In addition to his successful career, John has shared his time and expertise with a number of community and professional organizations in Connecticut. He currently serves on the Western Connecticut State University Foundation Board, and has previously been Director of Habitat for Humanity of New Haven and Chairperson of the Newtown Rotary Golf Fundraiser Event. John has also served as a board member of the Connecticut Society of CPA's Educational Trust Fund, a member of the Connecticut Community Bankers Association's Executive Committee, and a member of the Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce board.

Mr. Speaker, in his nineteen years of leadership at Newtown Savings Bank, John Trentacosta has been a successful leader in Connecticut's financial services industry, and he has also been a true partner to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

DOT MILLER

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dot Miller for being honored as a “7Everyday Hero” by KMGH Channel 7 for her outstanding service to the community.

Dot is the former President of the Arvada Chamber of Commerce. During her leadership the Chamber grew from 450 members to more than 700 members. During that time, she also helped educate Arvada businesses and develop future leaders by exposing students to the workforce.

In 2011, Dot created the Jefferson County Business Education Alliance (JCBEA) which

partners business owners and students with educational opportunities such as internships and job shadowing opportunities. One of the signature programs of the JCBEA is the Career Readiness Program which brings together teachers, administrators and business leaders in the community to help students in the classroom. This program is a course made up of six modules where students learn various skills ranging from work ethic and customer service to financial responsibility. In addition, students learn interview skills and how to write resumes. The JCBEA also provides workforce-ready training by conducting mock interviews between students and business leaders in the community.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dot Miller for receiving this well-deserved honor as a “7Everyday Hero”. Her positive impact on the community will be felt for many years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 2017*

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 18, 2017, I missed the following votes and was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 685, YEA on Roll Call No. 686, and YEA on Roll Call No. 687.

#### TRIBUTE TO DONNA AND RON MARTIN

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donna and Ron Martin of Greenfield, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on October 28, 2017.

Donna and Ron's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them nothing but the best.

#### CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1, TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 19, 2017*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters from Ford Motor Company, MetLife, Coalition Letter, Americans for

Tax Reform, National Taxpayers Union, and a letter signed by National Taxpayers Union, 60 Plus Association, ALEC Action, American Action Network, American Commitment, American Conservative Union, Americans for a Strong Economy, Americans for Tax Reform, Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC), Campaign for Liberty, Center for Freedom and Prosperity, Center for Individual Freedom, Center for Worker Freedom, Club for Growth, Consumer Action for a Strong Economy (CASE), Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, Digital Liberty, Faith & Freedom Coalition, Family Business Coalition, Freedom Foundation of Minnesota, FreedomWorks, Heritage Action for America, Hispanic Leadership Fund, Independent Women's Voice, Institute for a Policy Innovation, Invest in Education Coalition, The James Madison Institute, The John K. MacIver Institute for Public Policy, Middle Class Growth Initiative, Niskanen Center, Property Rights Alliance, Rio Grande Foundation, Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, Taxpayers Protection Alliance, Tea Party Patriots Citizens Fund, and Women for Trump:

FORD MOTOR COMPANY.

As an American automaker with more than 85,000 U.S. employees, we applaud your strong commitment to producing tax reform that we believe will help support continued investment in American manufacturing and the good-paying jobs it supports.

Over the last five years, Ford has invested more than \$12 billion in its U.S. factories. We have more U.S. hourly employees and produce more vehicles in the U.S. than any other automaker. We also continue to expand our ranks of high-tech engineering, research and IT jobs in the U.S. and each year, we invest nearly \$7 billion in research and development, the vast majority of which is conducted in the United States. We believe these investments will not only enhance our products today, but lead to the innovation that transforms the future of transportation.

Your collective work and perseverance in driving tax reform is critical to America's continued leadership in today's globally competitive marketplace. We urge you to quickly pass this proposal and seize this generational opportunity to make tax reform a reality.

METLIFE.

"MetLife has been on the record since September in support of pro-growth tax reform. We argued that companies should set aside narrow self-interest and support any tax package that boosts growth and jobs. The conference report on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 meets that test and we urge its enactment."

COALITION LETTER.

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and our millions of members from across the country, we write in support of the Conference Report to H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA). With passage of this historic legislation, Congress will finally deliver on the promise of fundamental tax reform. TCJA will encourage economic growth, simplify the tax code, and provide American families and individuals with much-needed tax relief.

On the individual side of the code, it will provide immediate financial benefits to American households by cutting rates across the board, doubling the standard deduction, and expanding the child tax credit. It will simplify the tax code so that more than 90 percent of filers will be able to avoid the complicated and burdensome process of itemization.

For businesses, the TCJA drops the corporate rate from 35 percent to a far more competitive 21 percent, which is below the average for industrialized nations. Corporations and small businesses alike would see lower rates and reduced burdens. It also creates a modern, territorial system of taxation that ends the competitive disadvantage that U.S. businesses face internationally. These changes will encourage more entrepreneurship, increase wages, create jobs, and lead to more investment in the domestic economy.

With these changes and more, lawmakers are casting a vision for the future of this country; one that empowers individuals, families and businesses to invest and succeed in the American dream.

The Conference Report to H.R. 1 is a pro-growth, pro-family, and pro-worker legislative proposal. We encourage all Members of Congress to support its passage.

Pete Sepp, National Taxpayers Union, James L. Martin, 60 Plus Association, Lisa B. Nelson, ALEC Action, Corry Bliss, American Action Network, Phil Kerpen, American Commitment, Daniel Schneider, American Conservative Union, Tom Giovanetti, Americans for a Strong Economy, Grover Norquist, Americans for Tax Reform, Dan Weber, Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC).

Norm Singleton, Campaign for Liberty, Andrew F. Quinlan, Center for Freedom and Prosperity, Jeffrey Mazzella, Center for Individual Freedom, Olivia Grady, Center for Worker Freedom, David McIntosh, Club for Growth, Matthew Kandrach, Consumer Action for a Strong Economy (CASE), Tom Schatz, Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, Katie McAuliffe, Digital Liberty, Timothy Head, Faith & Freedom Coalition, Alex Ayers, Family Business Coalition.

Annette Meeks, Freedom Foundation of Minnesota, Jason Pye, FreedomWorks, Michael A. Needham, Heritage Action for America, Mario Lopez, Hispanic Leadership Fund, Heather R. Higgins, Independent Women's Voice, Tom Giovanetti, Institute for a Policy Innovation, Thomas W. Carroll, Invest in Education Coalition, J. Robert McClure, The James Madison Institute, Brett Healy, The John K. MacIver Institute for Public Policy.

Michael Steel, Middle Class Growth Initiative, Jerry Taylor, Niskanen Center, Lorenzo Montanari, Property Rights Alliance, Paul Gessing, Rio Grande Foundation, Karen Kerrigan, Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, David Williams, Taxpayers Protection Alliance, Jenny Beth Martin, Tea Party Patriots Citizens Fund, Amy Kremer, Women for Trump.

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM.

LETTER NO. 2

NORQUIST STATEMENT ON CONFERENCE REPORT FOR TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

"A floor wax AND a delicious dessert topping that will create millions of American jobs and simplify and lower taxes on Americans"

ATR president Grover Norquist praised the conference report for Tax Cuts and Jobs Act as follows:

"In December 1975 Saturday Night Live unveiled "Shimmer" which was a floor wax AND a dessert topping. [See the video here]

"Today in December 2017 Republicans will enact the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The bill is a floor wax and a delicious dessert topping: it will create millions of American jobs AND simplify and lower taxes on Americans.

"It reduces taxes on American corporations AND small businesses.

"It simplifies the tax code so most Americans can file on a postcard AND offers tax relief for Americans at every income level.

"It will increase take-home pay AND grow the economy.

"It will end the Obamacare mandate tax paid by millions of Americans—80% of whom earn less than \$50,000—AND it will free up oil in Alaska."

LETTER NO. 2

KEY VOTE: ATR URGES "YES" VOTE ON CONFERENCE REPORT TO H.R. 1, THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will create millions of American jobs and higher wages AND simplify and lower taxes on Americans at every income level.

ATR Urges a YES vote.

Later this week, members of the House and Senate will vote on the conference report to H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. ATR urges a YES vote on this pro-growth, pro-family legislation.

This legislation offers tax reduction and simplification for families, individuals, small businesses, and corporations. Over the next decade, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act reduces taxes by \$5.5 trillion and eliminates \$4 trillion worth of distortionary credits and deductions.

H.R. 1 simplifies the tax code so most Americans can file on a postcard and offers tax relief for Americans at every income level. Under this plan, a family of four with the nationwide median income of \$73,000 will receive a tax cut of \$2,059.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will also grow the economy leading to increased take-home pay and the creation of new or better jobs for families across the country.

In addition, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ends the Obamacare mandate tax paid by millions of Americans—80% of whom earn less than \$50,000—and allows responsible production of oil in Alaska.

By voting YES on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, members of the House and Senate have a rare opportunity to reform the broken tax code and offer relief to families and businesses across the country. All Senators and Congressmen should vote for H.R. 1.

NATIONAL TAXPAYERS UNION.

NATIONAL TAXPAYERS UNION VOTE ALERT

NTU strongly urges all Members of Congress to vote "YES" on the Conference Report to H.R. 1, the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act." This legislation would overhaul our nation's broken tax code, stimulate economic growth, and provide struggling American families with much-needed tax relief. Tax reform is our nation's highest fiscal priority. For too long, our tax code has held back our economy and placed a heavy burden on American workers and job creators. H.R. 1 will make U.S. businesses significantly more competitive by lowering the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, shifting to a territorial system of taxation, and incentivizing capital investment into the economy. All of these changes will benefit American workers from across the economic spectrum by increasing wages and creating new jobs.

Additionally, H.R. 1 will ease the burden of taxation by doubling the standard deduction so that over 90 percent of filers can avoid the complicated process of itemization. It will provide immediate benefits to families via a 100 percent increase in the child tax credit and lower rates on taxable income across the board. Under H.R. 1, a typical family of four will be able to earn just over \$56,000 before having to pay a penny in federal income taxes, expanding what is known as the "zero percent tax bracket." Americans need tax reform and tax relief. H.R. 1 delivers on both counts.

Roll call votes on H.R. 1 will be heavily weighted in our annual Rating of Congress

and a "YES" vote will be considered the pro-taxpayer position.

**CONGRATULATING CAPTAIN JOHN LUNA ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE GRAPEVINE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 2017*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Captain John Luna on his well-earned retirement from the Grapevine Police Department in Grapevine, Texas, after thirty-two years of dedicated service as a law enforcement officer.

John's esteemed career began when he joined the police department of San Marcos, Texas, in 1985. John's service to the City of San Marcos continued for over ten years when, in 1996, he began his career with the City of Grapevine.

Since joining the department, John has honorably served his community and built a reputation as a hardworking and respected officer. Throughout his career in Grapevine, John received 29 letters of commendation, recognizing his professionalism and service to the community. He has served as a Field Training Officer, Police Instructor, Detective, Grapevine SWAT Team Hostage Negotiator, Honor Guard Member, and a Public Information Officer.

John's dedication as a public servant is apparent in his pursuit of continued education and trainings to help provide a better service to his community. He completed his basic, intermediate, advanced, and master's police certifications, accumulating over 3,968 hours of police in-service trainings. Furthermore, John is a 2009 graduate of the 236th session of the F.B.I. National Academy, which is a professional course of study for U.S. and international law enforcement managers who are nominated by their agency heads because of demonstrated leadership qualities.

John's contributions to the law enforcement operations in the City of Grapevine have helped to ensure countless officers have been superbly trained and prepared for the challenges they face in their everyday duties as police officers. His legacy will leave a lasting mark on the City of Grapevine and the Grapevine Police Department for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the exceptional efforts John has contributed to the City of Grapevine. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Captain John Luna and his many years of service and wishing him the best in his retirement.

**HONORING THE MESSIAH COLLEGE MEN'S SOCCER TEAM FOR WINNING THE NCAA DIVISION III NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 2017*

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I extend sincere congratulations to the Messiah College

Men's Soccer Team for winning the NCAA Division III National Championship. This is the 11th time the Messiah Falcons earned the title, "National Champions."

The Falcons defeated the North Park Vikings in a 2-1 victory on December 2, 2017. The win completed a 24-2 campaign for the Falcons that matched their team record for single-season wins, while also making Messiah 11-for-11 in title game appearances.

The dedication and perseverance of these student athletes should inspire everyone. I extend my congratulations as well to head coach Brad McCarty, and the school officials, family and friends who supported these young men on their incredible journey.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate the Messiah College Men's Soccer Team on the hard work and determination that led to their National Championship.

**TRIBUTE TO VICKIE AND GENE PEEL**

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Vickie and Gene Peel of Perry, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on November 25th, 2017.

Vickie and Gene's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

**ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI (MOTHER CABRINI)**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and missionary work of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (Mother Cabrini) and commemorate the 100th anniversary of her passing.

Mother Cabrini came to Denver, Colorado in 1902 to help Italian Immigrants who worked in the mines and on the railroad. She opened the Queen of Heaven Orphanage to care for girls ages 2 through 15 at 48th & Federal Blvd. which remained open from 1905 to 1967. Mother Cabrini believed the girls in the orphanage would benefit from trips out of the city so she purchased 900 acres of land in Mount Vernon Canyon to serve as a summer camp for the girls from the Queen of Heaven Orphanage. The summer camp in Mount

Vernon Canyon was said to have no source of water on the property. Mother Cabrini told her Sisters who accompanied her to foothills, "move that rock and you will find water clean enough to drink." The spring of water from that location still flows today. Many have given testimony to the water's impact in helping their suffering and ailments.

Mother Cabrini was canonized America's first citizen saint in 1946 and was also named the Patroness of Immigrants. In total, she opened 67 schools, orphanages and hospitals in her relatively short lifetime. The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the religious order founded by Mother Cabrini, have served and ministered to the people of Colorado since 1902.

Mother Cabrini died 100 years ago on December 22, 1917. Throughout her life she cared for the poorest of the poor and immigrants in need. Her life and legacy have been celebrated during this centenary year throughout the world.

I extend my deepest gratitude in recognition of all that Mother Cabrini accomplished in her time in Colorado. I am grateful for the continuous dedication the Mother Cabrini Shrine offers the community in her memory.

**CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1, TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT**

SPEECH OF

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 19, 2017*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Business Roundtable, National Association of Manufacturers, National Federation of Independent Business, and the Alliance for Competitive Taxation:

U.S. CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS: The U.S. Chamber of Commerce urges Congress to complete its final step to enact comprehensive, pro-growth tax reform legislation and pass the conference report to accompany H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The Chamber will include votes related to this legislation in our How They Voted scorecard. By passing the conference report, Congress would unleash resources for businesses large and small to hire new workers, expand facilities, and purchase new equipment. Bringing about tax reform would help ensure that these investments are made here in the United States, and these investments would lead to higher wages and catalyze broad economic growth.

Moreover, H.R. 1 would provide additional growth by allowing for environmentally-sensitive oil and gas production in an area in northern Alaska set aside by Congress for energy exploration in 1980.

The Chamber applauds the work of the conferees for reporting a strong pro-growth tax reform bill. The members of the Finance and Ways and Means Committees from this and previous congresses also deserve much credit for their work during this multi-year effort.

Tax reform is a big engine that will power a growing economy for years to come. Only one step remains for Congress to keep its commitment to approving pro-growth, comprehensive tax reform legislation.