



November 21, 2019

The Honorable Richard Neal
Chairman
House Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Ranking Member
House Committee on Ways and Means
1139 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Neal, Ranking Member Brady, Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing today on behalf of the National Demolition Association (NDA) to respectfully urge Congress to retroactively extend a series of tax incentives, known as tax extenders, which elapsed in 2017 and have yet to be renewed. The expiration of these tax incentives has created uncertainty in the economy which threatens job creation and the health of small businesses. Providing taxpayers with a predictable planning outlook as it pertains to tax incentives is vital for increased private sector investment and sustained economic growth. NDA believes it is imperative for the House and Senate to address these incentives by the end of 2019.

NDA represents nearly 500 U.S. and Canadian companies that offer standard demolition services as well as a full range of demolition-related services and products. NDA educates members on the latest advances in equipment and services, provides educational programs and tools to stay abreast of regulatory and safety matters and keeps regulators informed about issues in our industry. NDA also increases public awareness of the economic and societal benefits of demolition.

Specifically, NDA urges Congress to extend all of the Empowerment Zone (EZ) tax incentives listed in the Internal Revenue Code under sections 1391(d)(1)(A)(i) and (h)(2), 1394, 1396, 1397A, and 1397B. These sections provide tax incentives for businesses and employers operating in EZs. These benefits include tax-exempt bond financing, a federal income tax credit for employers who hire qualifying employees in EZs, accelerated depreciation deductions on qualifying equipment under section 179, and deferral of capital gains tax on the sale of qualified assets sold and replaced.

In addition, NDA supports any provisions which would provide tax relief to individuals and businesses impacted by major natural disasters over the last three years. Further, we hope Congress will give strong consideration to passing S. 2796, the Ensuring Disaster Recovery for Local Communities Act of 2019, which would streamline federal and state regulations to ensure local communities affected by natural disasters are able to receive disaster relief assistance faster and more efficiently.

NDA remains optimistic that Congress will work together to pass bipartisan tax legislation by the end of the year. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this issue. Please contact Kevin McKenney at kmckenney@demolitionassociation.com or 202-367-2480 with questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Lambert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of the first name being a large, stylized "J".

Jeff Lambert
Chief Executive Officer