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Rokita Votes to Stop the Tax Hike on Hoosier Families, Small Businesses

(Washington, D.C.) – U.S. Rep. Todd Rokita today voted in support of H.R. 8, the Job Protection and Recession Prevention Act, which would extend all current tax rates and prevent an increase of nearly \$3,300 per tax return for residents of Indiana’s 4th District. H.R. 8 passed the House by a 256-171 vote.

“The tax hike looming at the end of the year would hit Hoosiers at all income levels. Under the plan favored by the president, our tax code would become even more lopsided and unfair in the name of class warfare. Not only is that bad policy, it’s immoral, because it demands even more from those who already pay their fair share.

“With our bill, we’re extending the current rates for everyone, stopping thousands of family farms from being hit by an increase in the death tax, and preventing a major tax increase from hitting 940,000 American businesses in a recession,” said Rokita.

Prior to the vote on H.R. 8, the House voted 255-170 to reject a Senate-passed proposal that would increase taxes and destroy more than 700,000 jobs, according to an [estimate by Ernst & Young](#).

[Click here](#) for a video statement from Rokita explaining the danger posed by the tax hike and outlining principles for broader tax reform in the coming months:



Last week, in advance of Friday's "Stop the Tax Hike Day," Indiana business leaders also offered support for extending the current tax rates.

Craig Carson, CEO of Jeco Plastic Products in Plainfield, noted that as an LLC, his company is taxed at an individual rate. He estimates that his federal, state, and local taxes currently equal around 55 percent right now, and would jump to around 65 percent if Congress fails to prevent the coming tax hikes.

"The current tax rates are far too high for any kind of manufacturing company in the country. There's not enough left over for working capital growth, capital investment and hiring new employees. Any increase to that, such as these potential tax hikes, would make the existing problem that much worse," said Carson.

Jack Kenworthy, President of Bedford Savings Bank, said: "The tax cuts need to be extended. Now is not the time to raise taxes on the small business owners, with unemployment still very high by historical standards. All businesses need certainty in what they will pay in taxes and what they will pay for health insurance for their employees so they can plan for more investment in their businesses, expand and hire more employees. Consumers need this certainty as well, because they are the driving force behind the economy."

Ross Holloway, of Holloway Engineering in Mooresville, said: "As a small businessman, in this economic environment, it is extremely difficult to pay my nine employees and other expenses. Paying additional taxes is unacceptable! Since 2009, I personally have taken a 40 percent pay cut and my employees have sacrificed as well by accepting a 10 percent cut in pay. As an LLC I pay taxes on the company profits as personal income. I do not see how I can possibly pay more in taxes and at the same time retain my current number of employees. From the front lines of the economy I can assure you that if the tax cuts are not extended and the AMT reined in, unemployment will rise and more Americans will be suffering."

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