

October 27, 2016

The Honorable Rob Portman  
United States Senate  
448 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Pat Tiberi  
United States House of Representatives  
1203 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Portman and Representative Tiberi:

As you know, members of The Ohio Society of CPAs employ thousands of Ohioans and also work as key partners with countless other employers to advance the state of business. We advocate for reforms that foster a stronger business climate and a better regulatory environment that strengthen Ohio's economic future. Today, we write you in support of fully and permanently repealing the Health Insurance Tax (HIT), which if continued, would be detrimental to Ohio employers and employees alike.

The HIT is a specific tax within the Affordable Care Act that impacts small businesses, the middle and working classes, and Ohio's poorest citizens. What the ACA calls an "annual fee" ultimately amounts to what will be a new tax on many Ohioans. While the fee is technically imposed on insurers, the Congressional Budget Office has confirmed that the tax "would be largely passed through to consumers [small business owners and their employees] in the form of higher premiums for private coverage."

Simply put, implementing a regressive and harmful tax policy like the HIT is a very bad idea. The HIT is expected to increase healthcare costs for small businesses up to \$500 per employee, per year. The OSCPA cannot sit idly by as the HIT comes back into effect at the end of next year.

We truly value the previous support you've given by temporarily stopping the HIT, but Ohio's business community needs the certainty of a full repeal in order to continue expanding and growing Ohio's economy.

Please work during the coming lame duck session of Congress to fully and permanently repeal the HIT. Doing so will help our state with its efforts to drive our economy, and protect Ohioans from what for many would be a devastating hit to their bottom line.

Sincerely,



Scott D. Wiley, CAE  
President & CEO