

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2006

Dear Conferees:

We ask that as you continue negotiations on H.R. 4297, the *Tax Relief Extension Reconciliation Act of 2005*, you include in the Conference Report the Senate language that extends the expiring exemption from the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT).

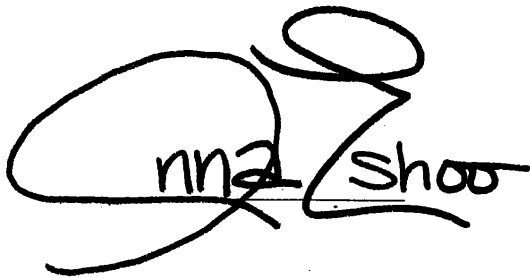
The AMT was originally designed to prevent high-income taxpayers from escaping their share of the income tax burden through excessive deductions. But, because it was never indexed for inflation, every year more and more middle-class taxpayers are being inappropriately captured by this tax. Failure to extend this provision will result in an additional 14 million taxpayers being subject to the AMT. While a permanent solution to this problem must be addressed, it's important that we continue to provide temporary relief until a viable long-term solution can be worked out.

As you know, Congress passed an increased exemption for the AMT as part of the *Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004*. Unfortunately, this exemption expired at the end of 2005. Unless an extension of this provision is passed, the AMT exemption will fall from \$58,000 to \$45,000 resulting in an additional 14 million taxpayers being subject to tax liability under the AMT. While a permanent solution to this problem must be addressed, it is important that we continue to provide temporary relief until a viable long-term solution can be worked out.

Both the House and Senate have expressed their support for extending this exemption. The Senate-passed version of H.R. 4297 included this extension just a few days ago while the House expressed its support for an extension through its overwhelming passage of H.R. 4096, the *Stealth Tax Relief Act*, in December of last year.

Again, we urge you to include the Senate's language to extend this expiring provision in the Conference Report to H.R. 4297 and help protect millions of taxpayers from the unintended consequences of the AMT.

Sincerely,



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Zee Off

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