



September 12, 2013

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte
Rayburn House Office Building #2309
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
Cannon House Office Building, #241
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act of 2013 (H.R. 3086)

Dear Chairman Goodlatte and Representative Eshoo,

The Internet Tax Freedom Act Coalition applauds your leadership in introducing the Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act which permanently extends the moratorium on Internet access taxes and prohibits multiple and discriminatory taxation of Internet commerce. When the Internet Tax Freedom Act (ITFA) was first enacted, the opportunity presented by the Internet was just beginning to show its promise. However, during the fifteen years since ITFA first instituted a moratorium on the taxation of Internet access, the Internet has become the engine of our 21st century global economy. There has been tremendous innovation leading to increased business productivity, development of countless computer applications and enhanced access to education, employment and health care resources. The importance of the Internet to numerous aspects of our everyday lives has expanded beyond anyone's initial dreams.

The impact of the Internet is evident in the scope of its use to help displaced workers look for new job opportunities, to permit students to access online educational materials to complete their homework, to provide small businesses and entrepreneurs with access to new marketplaces throughout the nation and across the globe and to enable consumers to access information and entertainment anywhere and at any time. The Internet provides consumers with access to health care monitoring services, government services, wireless AMBER alerts and 24/7 news coverage.

Broadband networks connect global markets and consumers without regard to state and national boundaries. Passing the Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act will protect consumers from new taxes that would inevitably be imposed on Internet access by state and local governments seeking new sources of revenue to fund government services. It also ensures that consumers will not be subjected to discriminatory taxation of new innovative services or duplicative taxation by multiple states and localities claiming authority to tax the same transaction.

Introduction of this bill is a critical step to ensure that consumers continue to be protected from having their Internet access burdened by new state and local taxes and their purchases over the Internet burdened by multiple and discriminatory taxes. Originally passed in 1998 and extended three times since with broad bipartisan support, ITFA encourages the flow of commerce and information over the Internet and improves our nation's ability to compete in the global economy.

We commend you on your efforts to protect consumers by making ITFA permanent and look forward to working with you and other members of Congress to achieve this important goal through the enactment of the Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act in 2014.

Sincerely,



Amazon



Americans for Tax Reform



at&t
AT&T



CenturyLink



Council for Citizens Against Government Waste



Comcast



Cox Enterprises



CTIA - The Wireless Association



Digital Liberty



Institute for Policy Innovation



Information Technology & Innovation Foundation



Madery Bridge Associates



National Black Chamber of Commerce



National Cable and Telecommunications Association



NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association



National Taxpayers Union



Taxpayers Protection Alliance



Time Warner Cable



T-Mobile



U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce



USTelecom Association



Verizon

cc: The Honorable Spencer Bachus
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The Honorable Steve Cohen
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Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steve Chabot
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