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ON TAXATION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2204

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The Honorable Ander Crenshaw
Chairman
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
House Appropriations Committee
440 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Michael Honda
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
House Appropriations Committee
1713 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

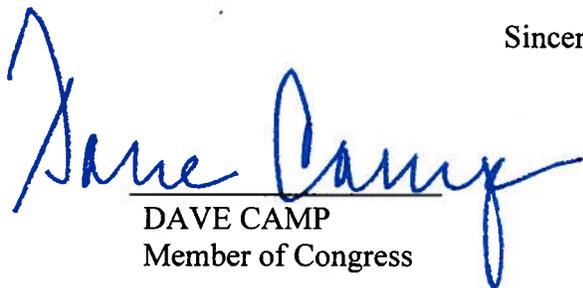
Dear Chairman Crenshaw and Ranking Member Honda:

Thank you for including H.R. 297 in the final text of the 2012 Consolidated Appropriations Act. We are writing to ask for your continued support of this legislation and to include it in the base text of the FY 2013 Legislative Branch Appropriations bill.

As you may know, H.R. 297 requires unused Congressional office funds from Members' Representational Allowances (MRA) to be returned directly to the Treasury at the end of the year for deficit reduction purposes. We believe that this legislation provides an incentive for Members to use taxpayer funds responsibly and lead by example in our efforts to reduce the national debt. Without this language, unexpended MRA funds can be "reprogrammed" for other budget purposes. It is vital that we truly reduce spending and show the American people we are committed to paying down the nation's debt.

We encourage you to once again include H.R. 297 in your subcommittee's bill. Enclosed is a copy of the legislation for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ashton Strohkirch at (202) 225-3561. We greatly appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,


DAVE CAMP
Member of Congress


MICHAEL TURNER
Member of Congress

Enclosure

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 297

To require amounts remaining in Members' representational allowances at the end of a fiscal year to be used for deficit reduction or to reduce the Federal debt, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 18, 2011

Mr. CAMP introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To require amounts remaining in Members' representational allowances at the end of a fiscal year to be used for deficit reduction or to reduce the Federal debt, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN MEM-**

4 **BERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES TO**

5 **BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO RE-**

6 **DUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-

8 sion of law, any amounts appropriated for the Members'

1 Representational Allowance of a Member of the House of
2 Representatives for a fiscal year which remain after all
3 payments are made under such Allowance for the year
4 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit re-
5 duction, except that in the case of a fiscal year for which
6 there is no Federal budget deficit, such amounts shall be
7 used to reduce the Federal debt (in such manner as the
8 Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

9 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with
10 respect to fiscal year 2011 and each succeeding fiscal year.

11 **SEC. 2. PUBLICATION REQUIREMENT.**

12 After each session of Congress or other period for
13 which the Members' Representational Allowance is made
14 available, there shall be published in the Congressional
15 Record a statement showing, with respect to such session
16 or period, the amount deposited with respect to each Mem-
17 ber under section 1 and the total deposited with respect
18 to all Members.

19 **SEC. 3. REGULATIONS.**

20 The Committee on House Administration of the
21 House of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe
22 regulations to carry out this Act.

1 **SEC. 4. DEFINITION.**

2 As used in this Act, the term “Member of the House
3 of Representatives” means a Representative in, or a Dele-
4 gate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

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