



May 14, 2008

To All Members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

I am writing on behalf of the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors and our 40,000 members to express our strong opposition to the proposed “Patriot Tax Surcharge” that we understand will be considered tomorrow to “pay for” additional domestic spending in the war funding supplemental.

According to a *Roll Call* story today, this .5% income tax surcharge was referred to by a leadership aide as “simple” and “straightforward.” Its simplicity and straightforwardness will be little compensation to the hundreds of thousands of small businesses which can ill afford an increased tax burden in this uncertain economy. American businesses are dealing with the slowing economy with tough decisions and self-imposed fiscal discipline. Congress should follow their example, not make it harder for them to succeed.

Moreover, Congress will be faced in the near-term with the expiration of the 2001 and 2003 income tax rate reductions. Failure to act to extend or make permanent those reductions will result in a massive tax increase and crippling damage to the economy. It simply makes no sense to make the challenge of those expiring tax provisions even worse by irresponsibly raising marginal tax rates today.

NAW will be key-voting this amendment, and I strongly urge you to oppose this ill-conceived and fiscally irresponsible tax-and-spend amendment when it is considered tomorrow.

Thank you for your consideration of NAW’s views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jade West'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jade C. West
Senior Vice President-Government Relations