

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 2, 2017

The Honorable Orrin Hatch  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Finance  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Chairman  
House Committee on Ways and Means  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Hatch and Brady:

We write you to request that you use your authority to request the tax returns of President Donald Trump for review by the Senate Committee on Finance and House Committee on Ways and Means.

Breaking with forty years of precedent, President Trump continues to refuse to make public his tax returns. The last time a President tried to keep his tax returns hidden, the Congress acted. In 1973 and 1974, the Joint Committee on Taxation reviewed and made public President Nixon's tax returns. Following a leak that then-President Nixon had paid very little in taxes, the Committee's nonpartisan staff reviewed his returns and found that Nixon owed almost \$500,000 in additional taxes over four years. Due to the significance of the issue to the country, the Committee exercised its authority and voted 9-to-1 to release the information to the public.<sup>[1]</sup>

The Chairmen of the Joint Committee on Taxation, the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Committee on Ways and Means have the authority to request copies of President Trump's tax returns under Section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code. Disclosure would serve the public interest of clarifying President Trump's conflicts of interest in office, the potential for him to personally benefit from tax reform, and ensure that he is not receiving any preferential treatment from the IRS.

These Committees have broad jurisdiction over a variety of laws that affect the lives of millions of Americans, including the federal tax law. The President and Congressional Republicans have been very vocal regarding their desire to enact comprehensive tax reform this Congress. We believe that it is imperative for the public to know and understand how such tax reform will

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<sup>[1]</sup> [https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/congress-has-the-power-to-obtain-and-release-trumps-tax-returns/2017/02/07/aa53254c-ea63-11e6-80c2-30e57e57e05d\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.0f2b3dd766d9](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/congress-has-the-power-to-obtain-and-release-trumps-tax-returns/2017/02/07/aa53254c-ea63-11e6-80c2-30e57e57e05d_story.html?utm_term=.0f2b3dd766d9)

benefit the President, his 564 financial positions in domestic and foreign companies,<sup>[2]</sup> and his self-reported net worth of more than \$10 billion.<sup>[3]</sup>

The Founding Fathers were so determined to prevent corruption among public officeholders that they wrote into our Constitution the foreign emoluments clause. Yet President Trump has chosen to keep an ownership stake in his businesses, in which we know that state-owned enterprises in China<sup>[4]</sup> and the United Arab Emirates<sup>[5]</sup> are involved. We know that his business ties stretch to India, Turkey, the Philippines, and beyond. None of these potential conflicts and violations of the emoluments clause can be verified until and unless we have disclosure from President Trump.

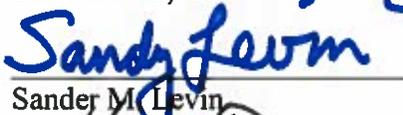
If the President does not either release his returns or consent to examination of such returns by this Committee, we urge you, as Chairman of the Committee and pursuant to Section 6103(f)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code, to submit a written request to the Secretary of the Treasury by March 15, 2017, for copies of the President's federal tax returns for the last ten years. These returns and all accompanying return information should then be made available for examination by all Committee Members in a closed executive session. We further request that the Committee then vote in this closed session to submit the President's federal tax returns to the House of Representatives and Senate — thereby, if successful, making them available to the public.

We believe the powerful and respected Committees on Finance and Ways and Means have the responsibility to ensure oversight of the executive branch by requesting a review of President Trump's tax returns and moving toward a formal release of these documents to the public.

We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

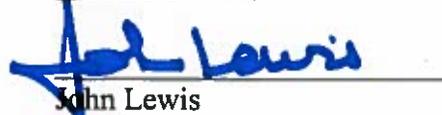
  
Bill Pascrell, Jr.

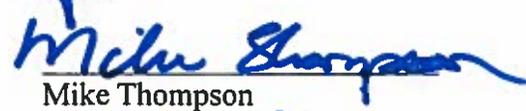
  
Sander M. Levin

  
Lloyd Doggett

  
John B. Larson

  
Richard E. Neal

  
John Lewis

  
Mike Thompson

  
Earl Blumenauer

<sup>[2]</sup> [http://pfds.opensecrets.org.s3.amazonaws.com/N00023864\\_2016\\_Pres.pdf](http://pfds.opensecrets.org.s3.amazonaws.com/N00023864_2016_Pres.pdf)

<sup>[3]</sup> [www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/may/24/donald-trump-net-worth-10-billion-campaign-manager/](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/may/24/donald-trump-net-worth-10-billion-campaign-manager/)

<sup>[4]</sup> <https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2016-11-28/trump-s-chinese-bank-tenant-may-negotiate-lease-during-his-term>

<sup>[5]</sup> <http://tcaabudhabi.ae/en/who.we.are/our.offices.aspx>

Ron Kind

Ron Kind

Danny K. Davis

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Brian Higgins

Brian Higgins

Suzan K. DelBene

Suzan K. DelBene

Steny H. Hoyer

Mark Sanford

Cheri Bustos

William Lacy Clay

Donald Norcross

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger

John P. Sarbanes

Albio Sires

Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Daniel T. Kildee

Ed Perlmutter

Joseph Crowley

Joseph Crowley

Linda T. Sanchez

Linda T. Sanchez

Terri A. Sewell

Terri A. Sewell

Judy Chu

Judy Chu

James E. Clyburn

James E. Clyburn

Walter B. Jones

Walter B. Jones

Katherine M. Clark

Katherine M. Clark

Ted Lieu

Ted Lieu

Frank Pallone, Jr.

Frank Pallone, Jr.

Tim Ryan

Tim Ryan

Carol Shea-Porter

Carol Shea-Porter

Jackie Speier

Jackie Speier

Gerald E. Connolly

Gerald E. Connolly

Betty McCollum

Betty McCollum

David E. Price

David E. Price

Pete Aguilar

Pete Aguilar

Janice D. Schakowsky

Janice D. Schakowsky

James R. Langevin

James R. Langevin

Juan Vargas

Juan Vargas

Mark DeSaulnier

Mark DeSaulnier

John Garamendi

John Garamendi

Peter J. Visclosky

Peter J. Visclosky

Barbara Lee

Barbara Lee

Robert A. Brady

Robert A. Brady

Peter A. DeFazio

Peter A. DeFazio

Carolyn B. Maloney

Carolyn B. Maloney

Grace Meng

Grace Meng

Louise McIntosh Slaughter

Louise McIntosh Slaughter

John K. Delaney

John K. Delaney

Ro Khanna

Ro Khanna

Marcy Kaptur

Marcy Kaptur

Peter Welch

Peter Welch

Adam B. Schiff

Adam B. Schiff

John A. Yarmuth

John A. Yarmuth

Michael F. Doyle

Michael F. Doyle

James P. McGovern

James P. McGovern

Anna G. Eshoo

Anna G. Eshoo

Brendan F. Boyle

Brendan F. Boyle

Steve Cohen

Steve Cohen

Dwight Evans

Dwight Evans

Doris O. Matsui

Doris O. Matsui

Gwen Moore

Gwen Moore

David N. Cicilline

David N. Cicilline

Theodore E. Deutch

Theodore E. Deutch

Brenda L. Lawrence

Brenda L. Lawrence

*Michelle Lujan Grisham*

Michelle Lujan Grisham

*Jamie Raskin*

Jamie Raskin

*Brad Sherman*

Brad Sherman

*Anthony G. Brown*

Anthony G. Brown

*Diana DeGette*

Diana DeGette

*Adriano Espaillat*

Adriano Espaillat

*Gene Green*

Gene Green

*Colleen Hanabusa*

Colleen Hanabusa

*Henry C. Johnson, Jr.*

Henry C. Johnson, Jr.

*Derek Kilmer*

Derek Kilmer

*Alan S. Lowenthal*

Alan S. Lowenthal

*Gregory W. Meeks*

Gregory W. Meeks

*Mark Pocan*

Mark Pocan

*Bonnie Watson Coleman*

Bonnie Watson Coleman

*Salud O. Carbajal*

Salud O. Carbajal

*Chellie Pingree*

Chellie Pingree

*Niki Tsongas*

Niki Tsongas

*Robert C. Scott*

Robert C. Scott

*Charlie Crist*

Charlie Crist

*Debbie Dingell*

Debbie Dingell

*Elizabeth H. Esty*

Elizabeth H. Esty

*Luis V. Gutierrez*

Luis V. Gutierrez

*Jared Huffman*

Jared Huffman

*Joseph P. Kennedy, III*

Joseph P. Kennedy, III

*David Loebsack*

David Loebsack

*Ben Ray Lujan*

Ben Ray Lujan

*Grace F. Napolitano*

Grace F. Napolitano

*Cedric L. Richmond*

Cedric L. Richmond

*Donald S. Beyer, Jr.*

Donald S. Beyer, Jr.

*Andre' Carson*

Andre' Carson

*Kathy Cast*

Kathy Castor

*Elijah E. Cummings*

Elijah E. Cummings

*Josh Gottheimer*

Josh Gottheimer

*Aleece L. Hastings*

Aleece L. Hastings

*Hakeem S. Jeffries*

Hakeem S. Jeffries

*Rick Larsen*

Rick Larsen

*Nita M. Lowey*

Nita M. Lowey

*Richard M. Nolan*

Richard M. Nolan

*Stacey E. Plaskett*

Stacey E. Plaskett

*Kathleen M. Rice*

Kathleen M. Rice

*Kurt Schrader*

Kurt Schrader

*Karen Bass*

Karen Bass

*Ami Bera*

Ami Bera

*Michael E. Capuano*

Michael E. Capuano

*Emanuel Cleaver, II*

Emanuel Cleaver, II

*Jim Cooper*

Jim Cooper

*Bill Foster*

Bill Foster

*Raul M. Grijalva*

Raul M. Grijalva

*James A. Himes*

James A. Himes

*William R. Keating*

William R. Keating

*Zoe Lofgren*

Zoe Lofgren

*Jerrold Nadler*

Jerrold Nadler

*Donald M. Payne, Jr.*

Donald M. Payne, Jr.

*David E. Price*

David E. Price

*Lisa Blunt Rochester*

Lisa Blunt Rochester

*Eric Swalwell*

Eric Swalwell

*Joyce Beatty*

Joyce Beatty

*O.K. Butterfield*

O.K. Butterfield

*Joaquin Castro*

Joaquin Castro

*Joe Courtney*

Joe Courtney

*Keith Ellison*

Keith Ellison

*Rosa L. DeLauro*

Rosa L. DeLauro

*Seth Moulton*

Seth Moulton

*Norma J. Torres*

Norma J. Torres

*Robin L. Kelly*

Robin L. Kelly

*Val B. Deming*

Val Butler Demings

*Lois Frankel*

Lois Frankel

*Denny Heck*

Denny Heck

*Ruben J. Kihl*

Ruben J. Kihl

*Stephen F. Lynch*

Stephen F. Lynch

*Eleanor Holmes Norton*

Eleanor Holmes Norton

*Collin C. Peterson*

Collin C. Peterson

*David Scott*

David Scott

*Adam Smith*

Adam Smith

*Filemon Vela*

Filemon Vela

*Eliot L. Engel*

Eliot L. Engel

*Ruben Gallego*

Ruben Gallego

*Suzanne Bonamici*

Suzanne Bonamici

*Paul D. Tonko*

Paul D. Tonko

*Yvette D. Clarke*

Yvette D. Clarke

*Mike Quigley*

Mike Quigley

*Al Green*

Al Green

*Eddie Bernice Johnson*

Eddie Bernice Johnson

*Ann M. Kuster*

Ann M. Kuster

*Stephanie Murphy*

Stephanie Murphy

*Beto O'Rourke*

Beto O'Rourke

*Jared Polis*

Jared Polis

*Lisa E. Serrano*

Lisa E. Serrano

*Dina Titus*

Dina Titus

*Nydia M. Velazquez*

Nydia M. Velazquez

*Sanford Bishop*

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

*Pramila Jayapa*

Pramila Jayapa

*Jim Costa*

Jim Costa

*Scott H. Peters*

Scott H. Peters

*Bradley S. Schneider*

Bradley S. Schneider

*Raja Krishnamoorthi*

Raja Krishnamoorthi

*Maxine Waters*

Maxine Waters