

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.^[1]

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

^[1] 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,^[2] and his self-reported net worth of more than \$10 billion.^[3]

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^[4] and the United Arab Emirates^[5] 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.

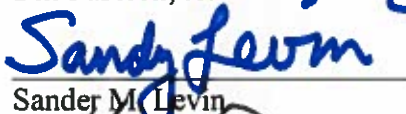
If the President does not either release his returns or consent to examination of such returns by this Committee, we urge you, as Chairman of the Committee and pursuant to Section 6103(f)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code, to submit a written request to the Secretary of the Treasury by March 15, 2017, 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,

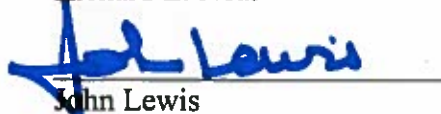

Bill Pascrell, Jr.


Sander M. Levin


Lloyd Doggett


John B. Larson


Richard E. Neal


John Lewis


Mike Thompson


Earl Blumenauer

^[2] http://pfds.opensecrets.org.s3.amazonaws.com/N00023864_2016_Pres.pdf

^[3] www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/may/24/donald-trump-net-worth-10-billion-campaign-manager/

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

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

Ron Kind

Ron Kind

Danny K. Davis

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Brian Higgins

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Suzan K. DelBene

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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

Linda T. Sanchez

Terri A. Sewell

Judy Chu

James E. Clyburn

Walter B. Jones

Katherine M. Clark

Ted Lieu

Frank Pallone, Jr.

Tim Ryan

Carol Shea-Porter

Jackie Speier


Gerald E. Connolly

Betty McCollum

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

Gene Green

Gene Green

Colleen Hanabusa

Henry C. Johnson, Jr.

Henry C. Johnson, Jr.

Derek Kilmer

Derek Kilmer

Alan 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

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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 Castor
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. Demings

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 McLane Kuster

Ann M. Kuster

Stephanie Murphy

Stephanie Murphy

Beto O'Rourke

Beto O'Rourke

Jared Polis

Jared Polis

José E. Serrano

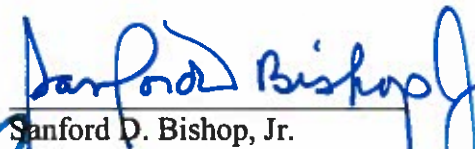
José E. Serrano

Dina Titus

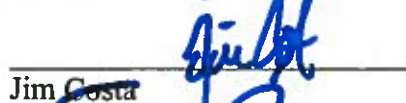
Dina Titus

Nydia Velázquez


Nydia M. Velazquez


Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.


Pramila Jayapa


Jim Costa


Scott H. Peters


Bradley S. Schneider


Raja Krishnamoorthi


Maxine Waters