



November 15, 2017

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 140,000 members of the Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO (TWU), I urge you to oppose the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (H.R. 1), the tax overhaul legislation expected to be voted on by the full U.S. House of Representatives this week.

H.R. 1 would exacerbate the current income inequality in our country by giving a tax break to corporations and the wealthiest Americans on the backs of the middle-class. According to the Joint Committee on Taxation, the legislation would penalize 38 million hardworking Americans earning between \$20,000 - \$40,000 annually by making them pay even *more* in taxes, while the wealthiest 1% would get an average tax break of nearly \$65,000. Moreover, the legislation would reduce taxes on corporate profits earned in the U.S. to 20%, while setting an even lower rate or eliminating taxes altogether on the profits that corporations earn from outsourcing American jobs.

The bill also prohibits employers who provide transit benefits to workers from being able to write off that benefit as an expense. The existing benefit incentivizes the use of public transportation, which reduces commutes, helps connect people to work and opportunities, and provides accessible and affordable transportation to more Americans. H.R. 1 also eliminates the deduction of state and local income and sales tax, thereby penalizing workers living in states that make strong investments in public services.

This bill would also add to our national debt by \$1.5 trillion. Such a sharp reduction in federal income will surely renew calls for reduced government funding of much-needed investments that benefit Americans across the country, such as transportation and infrastructure.

H.R. 1 is a clear attempt to benefit the wealthy at the expense of the middle-class. We urge you to oppose this bill.