



Support Permanent Repeal of the Estate Tax

Issue Background:

In 2001, Congress repealed the estate tax and its harmful effects on family-owned businesses. Unfortunately, the 2001 law created great uncertainty because it phased the top estate tax rate down to 45 percent in 2009 and increased the tax exemption to \$3.5 million, and repealed it completely in 2010. In 2011, the repeal expired, and the estate tax rate climbed back to 35 percent with a tax exemption of \$5 million. Recent congressional action permanently increased the rate up to 40 percent, but more has to be done to repeal the estate tax once and for all.

Key Points:

- *Recent Changes to the Estate Tax Rate Has Preserved Predictability, but Prolonged the Pain.* Although Congress made efforts to address this complex issue, there is still a great deal of uncertainty for business owners, including electrical contractors, because the estate tax is a burdensome and cruel avenue to collect revenue.
- *The Estate Tax is Costly and Time Consuming.* Instead of focusing time and money on growing their businesses and creating jobs, electrical contractors continue to spend valuable time and money on estate planning. Studies indicate that the average family business spends nearly \$20,000 in legal fees, \$12,000 for accounting, and an additional \$11,200 for other advisors preparing for death taxes.
- *Construction Companies are Frequently Family-Owned and Are Particularly Hard Hit by the Death Tax Burden.* The Estate Tax is essentially a penalty that families must pay to the government for the “privilege” of keeping their business in their family. The Federal estate tax rate has proven to be such a burden that families often sell their small construction companies in order to pay the death tax. In turn, this creates a disruption for company employees, customers and suppliers.
- *Permanent Repeal is the Smartest Policy.* Congress intended for family-owned businesses to focus on growth and business planning that would grow our economy, create new jobs, and strengthen businesses to succeed for generations. Permanent repeal of the estate tax is needed in order for contractors to have the freedom necessary to move forward.

Related Legislation:

Bill: Death Tax Repeal Act of 2013 (H.R. 2429) – NECA Position: Support

Sponsor: Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) - Co-Sponsors: 207

Rep Aderholt, Robert B.	Rep Fincher, Stephen Lee	Rep Lance, Leonard	Rep Roby, Martha
Rep Amash, Justin	Rep Fitzpatrick, Michael G.	Rep Lankford, James	Rep Roe, David P.
Rep Amodei, Mark E.	Rep Fleischmann, Chuck	Rep Latham, Tom	Rep Rogers, Harold
Rep Bachmann, Michele	Rep Fleming, John	Rep Latta, Robert E.	Rep Rogers, Mike D.
Rep Bachus, Spencer	Rep Flores, Bill	Rep LoBiondo, Frank A.	Rep Rokita, Todd
Rep Barletta, Lou	Rep Forbes, J. Randy	Rep Long, Billy	Rep Rooney, Thomas J.
Rep Barr, Andy	Rep Franks, Trent	Rep Lucas, Frank D.	Rep Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana
Rep Barton, Joe	Rep Frelinghuysen, Rodney	Rep Luetkemeyer, Blaine	Rep Roskam, Peter J.
Rep Benishkek, Dan	Rep Gardner, Cory	Rep Lummis, Cynthia M.	Rep Rothfus, Keith J.
Rep Bentivolio, Kerry L.	Rep Garrett, Scott	Rep Marchant, Kenny	Rep Ruyyan, Jon
Rep Bilirakis, Gus M.	Rep Gerlach, Jim	Rep Marino, Tom	Rep Salmon, Matt
Rep Bishop, Rob	Rep Gibbs, Bob	Rep Massie, Thomas	Rep Scalise, Steve
Rep Bishop, Sanford D., Jr.	Rep Gingrey, Phil	Rep Matheson, Jim	Rep Schock, Aaron
Rep Black, Diane	Rep Gohmert, Louie	Rep McAllister, Vance M.	Rep Schweikert, David
Rep Blackburn, Marsha	Rep Goodlatte, Bob	Rep McCaul, Michael T.	Rep Scott, Austin
Rep Boustany, Charles	Rep Gosar, Paul A.	Rep McClintock, Tom	Rep Sensenbrenner, Jim
Rep Bridenstine, Jim	Rep Gowdy, Trey	Rep McHenry, Patrick T.	Rep Sessions, Pete
Rep Brooks, Mo	Rep Granger, Kay	Rep McIntyre, Mike	Rep Shimkus, John
Rep Brooks, Susan W.	Rep Graves, Sam	Rep McKeon, "Buck"	Rep Shuster, Bill
Rep Broun, Paul C.	Rep Graves, Tom	Rep McKinley, David B.	Rep Smith, Adrian
Rep Buchanan, Vern	Rep Griffin, Tim	Rep Meadows, Mark	Rep Smith, Jason T.
Rep Bucshon, Larry	Rep Griffith, H. Morgan	Rep Meehan, Patrick	Rep Smith, Lamar
Rep Burgess, Michael C.	Rep Guthrie, Brett	Rep Messer, Luke	Rep Southerland, Steve II
Rep Byrne, Bradley	Rep Hall, Ralph M.	Rep Miller, Candice S.	Rep Stewart, Chris
Rep Calvert, Ken	Rep Harper, Gregg	Rep Miller, Jeff	Rep Stivers, Steve
Rep Carter, John R.	Rep Harris, Andy	Rep Mullin, Markwayne	Rep Stockman, Steve
Rep Cassidy, Bill	Rep Hartzler, Vicky	Rep Mulvaney, Mick	Rep Stutzman, Marlin A.
Rep Chabot, Steve	Rep Hastings, Doc	Rep Murphy, Tim	Rep Terry, Lee
Rep Chaffetz, Jason	Rep Heck, Joseph J.	Rep Neugebauer, Randy	Rep Thompson, Glenn
Rep Coble, Howard	Rep Hensarling, Jeb	Rep Noem, Kristi L.	Rep Thornberry, Mac
Rep Coffman, Mike	Rep Herrera Beutler, Jaime	Rep Nugent, Richard B.	Rep Tipton, Scott R.
Rep Cole, Tom	Rep Holding, George	Rep Nunes, Devin	Rep Turner, Michael R.
Rep Collins, Chris	Rep Hudson, Richard	Rep Nunnelee, Alan	Rep Valadao, David G.
Rep Collins, Doug	Rep Huelskamp, Tim	Rep Olson, Pete	Rep Wagner, Ann
Rep Conaway, K. Michael	Rep Huizenga, Bill	Rep Palazzo, Steven M.	Rep Walberg, Tim
Rep Cook, Paul	Rep Hultgren, Randy	Rep Paulsen, Erik	Rep Walden, Greg
Rep Cotton, Tom	Rep Hurt, Robert	Rep Pearce, Stevan	Rep Walorski, Jackie
Rep Cramer, Kevin	Rep Jenkins, Lynn	Rep Perry, Scott	Rep Weber, Randy K. Sr.
Rep Crawford, Eric A. "Rick"	Rep Johnson, Bill	Rep Petri, Thomas E.	Rep Webster, Daniel
Rep Crenshaw, Ander	Rep Johnson, Sam	Rep Pittenger, Robert	Rep Weststrub, Brad R.
Rep Culberson, John Abney	Rep Jolly, David	Rep Pitts, Joseph R.	Rep Westmoreland, Lynn A.
Rep Daines, Steve	Rep Jones, Walter B., Jr.	Rep Poe, Ted	Rep Whitfield, Ed
Rep Davis, Rodney	Rep Jordan, Jim	Rep Pompeo, Mike	Rep Williams, Roger
Rep Denham, Jeff	Rep Joyce, David P.	Rep Posey, Bill	Rep Wilson, Joe
Rep DeSantis, Ron	Rep Kelly, Mike	Rep Price, David E.	Rep Wittman, Robert J.
Rep DesJarlais, Scott	Rep King, Steve	Rep Price, Tom	Rep Womack, Steve
Rep Diaz-Balart, Mario	Rep Kingston, Jack	Rep Radel, Trey	Rep Woodall, Rob
Rep Duffy, Sean P.	Rep Kinzinger, Adam	Rep Reed, Tom	Rep Yoder, Kevin
Rep Duncan, Jeff	Rep Kline, John	Rep Reichert, David G.	Rep Yoho, Ted S.
Rep Duncan, John J., Jr.	Rep Labrador, Raul R.	Rep Renacci, James B.	Rep Young, Don
Rep Ellmers, Renee L.	Rep LaMalfa, Doug	Rep Ribble, Reid J.	Rep Young, Todd
Rep Farenthold, Blake	Rep Lamborn, Doug	Rep Rice, Tom	

Bill: Death Tax Repeal Act of 2013 (S. 1183) – NECA Position: Support

Sponsor: Sen. John Thune (R-SD) - Co-Sponsors: 37

Sen Alexander, Lamar (TN)	Sen Cruz, Ted (TX)	Sen Isakson, Johnny (GA)	Sen Roberts, Pat (KS)
Sen Ayotte, Kelly (NH)	Sen Enzi, Michael B. (WY)	Sen Johanns, Mike (NE)	Sen Rubio, Marco (FL)
Sen Barrasso, John (WY)	Sen Fischer, Deb (NE)	Sen Johnson, Ron (WI)	Sen Scott, Tim (SC)
Sen Blunt, Roy (MO)	Sen Flake, Jeff (AZ)	Sen Kirk, Mark Steven (IL)	Sen Sessions, Jeff (AL)
Sen Boozman, John (AR)	Sen Graham, Lindsey (SC)	Sen Lee, Mike (UT)	Sen Shelby, Richard C. (AL)
Sen Chambliss, Saxby (GA)	Sen Grassley, Chuck (IA)	Sen McConnell, Mitch (KY)	Sen Toomey, Pat (PA)
Sen Coats, Daniel (IN)	Sen Hatch, Orrin G. (UT)	Sen Moran, Jerry (KS)	Sen Vitter, David (LA)
Sen Cochran, Thad (MS)	Sen Heller, Dean (NV)	Sen Murkowski, Lisa (AK)	
Sen Cornyn, John (TX)	Sen Hoeven, John (ND)	Sen Paul, Rand (KY)	
Sen Crapo, Mike (ID)	Sen Inhofe, James M. (OK)	Sen Risch, James E. (ID)	