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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0103

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AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES AND RISK
MANAGEMENT
LIVESTOCK AND HORTICULTURE

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Alabama [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

I wanted to take this opportunity to express to you my opposition to high taxes on the American people. I know you have contacted me on the issue in the past and share your concern that taxes are too high.

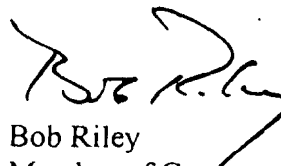
The average American taxpayer works until approximately April 27th to earn enough income to pay an entire year's worth of taxes. That means that the average American works 117 days per year to pay their taxes to federal, state, and local taxes. In Alabama, the combined tax burden on each individual is 29.1%. Nearly 30 cents of every dollar you earn will be sent to some level of government. Clearly taxes are out of control.

Unfortunately, working families across the country wonder why they can't seem to make ends meet. People are working longer hours, taking second jobs, but cannot seem to get ahead. I strongly support providing tax relief to working Americans that know how to spend the money they earn better than government bureaucrats. We must pursue an agenda of economic freedom for American families, so that individuals can earn more, and save more.

That is why I was glad to support President Bush last year as we enacted sweeping tax reforms designed to make the current tax structure more equitable and return money to the hard working American people. The major components of the bill included: marginal income tax rate reductions, marriage penalty repeal, death tax repeal, child care provisions, and education incentives. This truly was landmark legislation that was strong public policy last year, and remains the proper course of action today.

I find it troubling that the taxation of the American people is at its highest level since World War II. We will not be able to stimulate economic growth unless we begin to lower tax rates on American businesses and individuals. It is for this reason that I strongly support legislation to lower the tax burden on the American people and am been proud to have received the "Hero of the Taxpayer" award from the Americans for Tax Reform on a consistent basis while in Congress.

Sincerely,


Bob Riley
Member of Congress

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