

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN
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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations, and dedicated to promoting, protecting, and defending America's free enterprise system, supports H.R. 4438, the "American Research and Competitiveness Act of 2014," which would bring more certainty to the tax code by providing for a permanent research and development (R&D) incentive.

The Chamber has long called for more robust and permanent R&D incentives. R&D plays an essential role in almost every facet of the United States economy; it is vital that Congress incentivize R&D investment within American borders to increase American global competitiveness in attracting capital investment and to create American jobs.

While the Chamber has long called for permanent and expanded R&D incentives, piecemeal reforms to the broken tax code are not a substitute for comprehensive tax reform that lowers rates, reduces the cost of capital, provides a more internationally competitive system, increases certainty, and decreases complexity. The Chamber looks forward to continuing to work with Congress to achieve much needed comprehensive tax reform.

As work continues towards comprehensive tax reform, businesses should not face short-term harm because of their reliance on provisions that, while temporary, have been extended repeatedly such that taxpayers have reasonably made long-term business plans around an expectation of another extension. The extension of expired and expiring provisions would foster more effective business decisions and help spur capital investment and job creation.

The Chamber applauds H.R. 4438, the "American Research and Competitiveness Act of 2014." **The Chamber strongly urges you to support H.R. 4438 and may consider votes on, or in relation to, this bill in our annual *How They Voted* scorecard.** The Chamber also urges quick action on other expired and expiring tax provisions and looks forward to continuing work towards comprehensive tax reform.

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten