

1909 K Street NW • Suite 510 Washington, DC 20006 202.204.7900 www.bdamerica.org

November 7, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC & U.S. MAIL

The Honorable Orrin Hatch Chairman, Senate Committee on Finance 219 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Hatch:

The Bond Dealers of America (BDA) is the only Washington, DC-based association representing the interests of "Main Street" investment firms and banks predominately in the U.S. fixed income markets.

We, the Board of the BDA, write to ask you to preserve the tax-exempt status of governmental municipal bonds and urge you to retain current law as it applies to tax exempt private-activity bonds and municipal bond advance refundings. Both are proposed for elimination in the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.*

By terminating private-activity bonds (including all 501c3 bonds for healthcare and higher education) and disallowing advance refundings, these changes will raise borrowing costs, and thus, taxes to all jurisdictions focused on infrastructure and capital improvement projects. These provisions work against the stated goal of this package, to energize the economy and lower the tax burden of middle-class Americans. Moreover, these changes would restrict the tool that is most often used to finance America's infrastructure.

Mr. Chairman, as the Committee moves towards the release of a comprehensive tax package, we ask you to preserve the tax status of private-activity bonds and maintain the refinancing option that tax-exempt advance refundings allow. These financing options provide state and local governments the flexibility needed to provide services efficiently and effectively, and at low cost for the taxpayer.

Thank you for your consideration and please let us know if you need more information from us.

Sincerely,

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Michael Nicholas Chief Executive Officer Bonds Dealers of America

Cc: The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader United States Senate The Honorable Charles Schumer Minority Leader United States Senate

The Honorable Ron Wyden Ranking Member, Committee on Finance United States Senate

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November 6, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC & U.S. MAIL

The Honorable Kevin Brady Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee 1106 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Brady:

The Bond Dealers of America (BDA) is the only Washington, DC-based trade association representing the interests of "Main Street" investment firms and banks active predominantly in the U.S. fixed income markets.

We, the Board of the BDA, write to thank you and House Leadership for preserving the taxexempt status of governmental municipal bonds and urge you to retain current law as it applies to tax exempt private-activity bonds (including multi-family and single family housing bonds) and municipal bond advance refundings. Both are proposed for elimination in the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act*.

By terminating private-activity bonds (including all 501c3 bonds for healthcare and higher education) and disallowing advance refundings, these changes will raise borrowing costs, and thus, taxes to all jurisdictions focused on infrastructure and capital improvement projects. These provisions work against the stated goal of this package, to energize the economy and lower the tax burden of middle-class Americans. Moreover, these changes would restrict the tool that is most often used to finance America's infrastructure.

Mr. Chairman, as the Committee moves towards a mark-up of the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act*, we ask you to preserve the tax status of private-activity bonds and maintain the refinancing option that tax-exempt advance refundings allow. We applaud your efforts to protect the tax-exemption for governmental municipal bonds. These financing options provide state and local governments the flexibility needed to provide services efficiently and effectively, and at low cost for the taxpayer.

Thank you for your consideration and please let us know if you need more information from us.

Sincerely,

Mharilla.

Michael Nicholas Chief Executive Officer Bonds Dealers of America

Cc: The Honorable Paul Ryan Speaker U.S. House of Representatives

> The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Richard Neal Ranking Member, House Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives

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1455 Pennsylvania Ave NW Suite 400 Washington, D.C. 20004 www.americansecurities.org

November 7, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC & U.S. MAIL

The Honorable Kevin Brady Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee 1106 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Brady:

The American Securities Association (ASA) exclusively represents the interests of "Main Street" financial services companies. As a voice for middle market companies and their chief executives, we write you today concerning changes considered in the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act*.

We, the Board of the ASA, thank you and House Leadership for preserving the tax-exempt status of governmental municipal bonds and urge you to retain current law as it applies to tax exempt private-activity bonds (including multi-family and single-family housing bonds) and municipal bond advance refundings. Both are proposed for elimination in the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act*.

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Thank you for your consideration and please let us know if you need more information from us.

Speaker U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Richard Neal Ranking Member U.S. House of Representatives

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1455 Pennsylvania Ave NW Suite 400 Washington, D.C. 20004 www.americansecurities.org

November 8, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC & U.S. MAIL

The Honorable Orrin Hatch Chairman, Senate Committee on Finance 219 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Hatch:

The American Securities Association (ASA) exclusively represents the interests of "Main Street" financial services companies.

We, the Board of the ASA, write to ask you to preserve the tax-exempt status of governmental municipal bonds and urge you to retain current law as it applies to tax exempt private-activity bonds (including multi family and single family housing bonds) and municipal bond advance refundings. Both proposed for elimination in the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act*.

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Cc: The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader United States Senate

The Honorable Charles Schumer Minority Leader United States Senate The Honorable Ron Wyden Ranking Member, Committee on Finance United States Senate

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