

## **Family Business Estate Tax Coalition**

The FBETC is a grassroots group dedicated to full, permanent repeal of the death tax.

May 11, 2007

The Honorable Kenny Hulshof  
United States House of Representatives  
409 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Cramer  
United States House of Representatives  
2184 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

On behalf of the Family Business Estate Tax Coalition (FBETC), we thank you for demonstrating your strong and continuing support of family businesses and farms by once again introducing legislation to repeal the estate tax. As you know, much of the cost of the death tax occurs before the tax itself is levied. The threat of the tax actually forces families to pay for expensive estate planning if they want to keep their business in the family.

It is well documented that imposition of the death tax, at rates that can reach as high as 45 percent, forces business owners to sell or break up active businesses that are essential to the health of local economies. The uncertainty surrounding these tax rates requires business owners to continue with estate-planning strategies that are costly, cumbersome and time consuming. Eliminating this burdensome tax will preserve and expand employment opportunities. Even if full repeal is not possible at this time, these businesses still need immediate, permanent relief.

We thank you for your continued efforts to support America's businesses and family farms, and we look forward to working with you in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Sincerely,

The Family Business Estate Tax Coalition

Air Conditioning Contractors of America  
American Council for Capital Formation  
American Family Business Institute  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Forest & Paper Association  
American International Auto Dealers Association  
American Rental Association  
Associated Builders and Contractors  
Associated General Contractors  
Association of Equipment Manufacturers  
Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association (AAIA)  
Food Marketing Institute  
Independent Community Bankers of America

International Franchise Association  
National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS)  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors  
National Automobile Dealers Association  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)  
National Federation of Independent Business  
National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association  
National Restaurant Association  
National Small Business Association  
National Tooling and Machining Association  
Newspaper Association of America  
Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors - National Association  
Printing Industries of America  
Society of American Florists  
Tire Industry Association  
US Chamber of Commerce  
United States Telecom Association  
Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of America