

January 17, 2018

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker of the House of Representatives
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

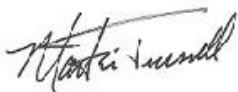
We write to thank you and express our strongest support for the Continuing Appropriations Act of 2018, which contains critical relief from healthcare taxes that pose a threat to the healthcare plans that millions of hardworking Americans and their families rely upon.

With the authority to fund the federal government expiring on Friday, January 19, and taxes like the Cadillac Tax already impacting the ability of employers to plan and provide quality healthcare plans for their workers, we urge all Members of Congress quickly take up and pass this legislation.

As you know, the "Cadillac Tax," was enacted as part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and is currently slated to hit healthcare plans in 2020. While the tax does not officially penalize employer provided health plans until then, it is already having a negative impact in the marketplace as many employers plan and negotiate their health care benefits on a multi-year basis. This additional two-year delay (until 2022) will give employers temporary relief from curtaining the health benefits they provide their employees and it is a good first step to ultimately eliminating this tax.

Please contact Martin Trussell ([202.350.1788](tel:202.350.1788) or mtrussell@ecfc.org) or Bill Sweetnam ([202.465.6397](tel:202.465.6397) or wsweetnam@ecfc.org) with any questions.

Sincerely,



Martin Trussell
Executive Director



William F. Sweetnam, Jr.
Legislative and Technical Director