

# TAX-NEWS

## GLOBAL TAX NEWS

### **US Congress Urged To Pull OECD Funding**

with Mike Godfrey, Tax-News.com, Washington  
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In a letter released on October 25, the Coalition for Tax Competition asked members of the US Congress to cut the USD100m taxpayer subsidy paid to the Organization for Economic and Cooperation Development (OECD), citing the agency's record as an opponent of tax competition.

“We have long been disturbed that the OECD has a 'harmful tax competition' project that seeks to hinder the flow of jobs and capital to low-tax nations. Since the United States is the world's biggest beneficiary of international capital flows and tax competition, it is the height of folly for the American taxpayer to subsidize this effort,” the letter says.

“There is also a disturbing trend where the OECD endorses big government positions on domestic policy issues. The OECD has supported so-called 'stimulus' spending, advocated for cap-and-trade regulation, and suggested a value-added tax in the US, just to name a few examples. In effect, US taxpayers are subsidizing further advocacy for bigger government and higher taxes - positions against their own interests,” the letter urges.

The letter argues that US taxpayers should not be funding an organization which works against their interests by promoting 'a statist agenda'. The letter was signed by leaders from 16 prominent think tanks and influential taxpayer organizations.

Andrew Quinlan, President of the Center for Freedom and Prosperity and Coordinator for the Coalition for Tax Competition, argued: "OECD bureaucrats have lived a fat and happy life using the US taxpayer dime. They have long received tax-free salaries, supplied in large part from US taxpayers, while jet-setting around the world and advocating for higher taxes. It's time for the gravy train to end."

Dan Mitchell, Senior Fellow at the Cato Institute, added: "The OECD is in love with higher taxes. Sending US taxpayer dollars to the Paris-based tax bureaucrats at the OECD has a clear negative multiplier, to borrow the language of Keynesians. Not only is it money better kept in the US economy in the first place, but it's coming back as advocacy for more taxes, more spending, and more government."