

Family Business Estate Tax Coalition

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

February 13, 2008

The Honorable George W. Bush
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20504

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Family Business Estate Tax Coalition (FBETC), thank you for including much-needed relief from the estate tax to family businesses in your Fiscal Year 2009 budget. Your support for the repeal of this tax, which unfairly punishes growing family businesses and farms, is appreciated and we thank you for your continued effort to make relief from this unfair tax permanent.

The temporary nature of this tax further complicates an already overly complex tax code. The uncertainty and yearly changes require business owners to continue with estate-planning strategies that are costly, cumbersome, and time-consuming. Further, this tax discourages savings and investments, reduces wages and job creation and is the leading cause of dissolution for thousands of family-run businesses.

If business owners are permitted to operate without concerns about the estate tax, resources currently allocated to mitigating the tax can be reinvested into expanding the businesses, thus shoring up job opportunities and providing a much-needed stimulus to local economies.

Repeal of the estate tax is critically important to the future of America's family businesses, farms and ranches and the people they employ. The FBETC applauds your efforts to repeal the estate tax, and we look forward to working with you to ensure that this much-needed tax relief is made permanent.

Sincerely,

The Family Business Estate Tax Coalition

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**Air Conditioning Contractors of America
American Family Business Institute
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Forest & Paper Association
American Frozen Foods Institute
American Hotel & Lodging Association
American International Automobile Dealers Association
American Rental Association
American Wholesale Marketers Association
AMT- The Association for Manufacturing Technology
Associated Builders & Contractors
Associated General Contractors of America
Association of Equipment Manufacturers
Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association
Communicating For Agriculture and the Self-Employed
Comporium Group
Financial Executives International Committee on Private Companies
Food Marketing Institute
Independent Community Bankers of America
Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America
International Foodservice Distributors Association
International Franchise Association
Marine Retailers Association of America
Mason Contractors Association of America
Mortgage Bankers Association
National Association of Convenience Stores
National Association of Home Builders
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors
National Association of Realtors
National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors
National Automobile Dealers Association
National Black Chamber of Commerce
National Cattlemen's Beef Association
National Electrical Contractors Association
National Federation of Independent Business
National Funeral Directors Association
National Grocers Association
National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association
National Newspaper Association
National Restaurant Association
National Roofing Contractors Association
National Small Business Association
National Taxpayers Union
National Telecommunications Cooperative Association
National Tooling & Machining Association
National Utility Contractors Association
Newspaper Association of America
Policy & Taxation Group
Printing Industries of America/GATF
Society of American Florists
Sunrise Research
Tire Industry Association**

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**U.S. Business & Industry Council
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
WineAmerica
Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of America
Wine Institute
Women Impacting Public Policy**