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January 31, 2011

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

During your State of the Union address on Tuesday evening, I was more than pleased to hear your comments calling for serious reform to our broken tax system. I was also pleased to hear your request that any such reform would be revenue neutral. I too wish for fundamental tax reform that makes filing easier for American taxpayers and also lowers their individual tax rates.

I offer my assistance in seeing that such reform is achieved. Every congress since I was elected, I have introduced the Freedom Flat Tax Act. This legislation would give taxpayers the option of having a flat rate of tax applied to income. This rate would start at nineteen percent, and then lower to seventeen percent after two years. Another important feature of this bill is that taxpayers have a personal exemption but have no other deductions or credits. Such a simplified tax system would ease the burden on taxpayers, and also save money by preventing the need for expensive tax preparers, and lessen the need for an expansive Internal Revenue Service.

While we may differ on the rate of tax applied to taxpayers, we can agree on the need to eliminate the thousands of tax expenditures that complicate tax filing. I am eager to work with your administration to lessen the burden on American taxpayers. If you want to work together to achieve this goal, please have your staff contact my Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-7772 to schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael C. Burgess".

Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress