

CALL-FOR-ACTION



Please help Oppose Tax Reform Efforts that Over-Tax the Middle-Class.

The California Association of REALTORS® (C.A.R.) is opposing the “Big Six” Tax Reform proposal that will soon be considered by Congress. The proposal raises taxes on middle-class homeowners and removes from the tax code incentives for homeownership.

ACTION ITEM

Ask your Representative
to **OPPOSE** this reform proposal because it raises taxes on middle-class homeowners.

Call 1-800-278-3615

Enter the PIN number from the chart below, followed by the # sign to be connected to your Member of Congress's office

When staff answers the phone, you can use the following script:

"Hi, this is (insert your name). I'm a constituent. Please ask the Representative to **OPPOSE** this and ANY tax reform proposal that raises taxes on middle-class homeowners."

Also, if you use Twitter™, please Tweet the following (insert the correct Twitter handle from the list below; be sure to keep the “.” in front of the handle in the Tweet):

.<insert Twitter handle> urge @HouseGOP to protect middle-class in #TaxReform.
#SaveHomeownership

		PIN	Twitter Handle
John	Garamendi	2003	@RepGaramendi
Mike	Thompson	2005	@RepThompson

The Congressional Tax Reform Proposal should be **OPPOSED** because:

This is a tax increase on California homebuyers and homeowners. Congress needs to protect taxpayers from double-taxation and maintain the deduction for state and local taxes, including property taxes. Not allowing the average homeowner in California to deduct their property, state and local taxes would effectively **raise their taxes \$3,000 a year!** The Federal government would tax families on money paid to the state and to local governments they never used.

Homeownership is good for families and communities and the tax code should encourage it. The tax code is often used to encourage favored behavior. For instance, lowering the corporate tax rate encourages businesses to invest in equipment and hire more workers. Homeownership should be encouraged too. Studies show that homeowners build wealth at a faster rate and are more active in their communities. For over 100 years Congress has provided an incentive for homeownership with the tax code; currently through the mortgage interest deduction. Any effort at reforming the tax code should maintain and prioritize this incentive. The current proposal only pays lip service to incentivizing homeownership. The proposed changes will result in only five-percent of taxpayers itemizing their deductions. Therefore, the vast majority of people will no longer receive any tax incentive to purchase a home. So, while the proposal keeps the mortgage interest deduction, the incentive effect of the deduction for Americans to become homeowners **disappears.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Go to <http://on.car.org/2017taxreform>