



December 3, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The IEEE-USA (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers - USA) joins with the ASAE in urging you to support the repeal of the unrelated business income tax (UBIT) on transportation fringe benefits for tax-exempt organizations, as included in Chairman Brady's tax package being considered on the House floor this week.

Until this year, tax-exempt organizations including charitable nonprofits, houses of worship, professional societies, associations and foundations that provided transportation and parking benefits to their employees were not subject to a tax on those benefits. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) changed this by imposing a 21 percent UBIT on qualified transportation benefits. Not only do nonprofits now have to pay a hefty tax on these benefits, but we must value them as well, which can be difficult when there is no clearly defined valuation method or guidance from Treasury.

IEEE employs approximately 1,100 people in the United States. Our organization currently provides a number of incentives to help our employees commute to work, including incentives to encourage IEEE employees to commute using mass transit. As our employees are clustered in areas of the country with the worst traffic congestion (New York, Washington, San Jose), these incentives not only provide a meaningful benefit to our members, but they also help improve traffic in these congested areas, benefiting the entire community.

IEEE-USA speaks for 180,000 American engineers, programmers, and other technology professionals across the United States. On their behalf, we ask that you repeal the UBIT tax on transportation benefits for non-profits.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S L Robinson".

Sandra L. Robinson
2018 President, IEEE-USA

(SAMPLE LETTER – SENT TO ALL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES)