

AN OPEN LETTER TO CONGRESS ON SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY & JOB GROWTH BY STOPPING A TAX HIKE ON DIVIDENDS & CAPITAL GAINS

We strongly urge Congress to take action to stop an impending tax hike on dividends and capital gains. Today's lower tax rates on dividends and capital gains are good for the economy, consumers, American businesses, retirees and other investors. But unless Congress acts, these tax rates will surge at the end of the year—by as much as 33% on capital gains and 164% on dividend income—discouraging job creation and investment in the recovering U.S. economy.

We agree with Treasury Secretary Geithner, who recently said, "Our job now is about growth. Now, all the government can do is to make sure we're providing a bridge to the recovery. It's businesses that create jobs; governments don't create jobs." Raising taxes on dividends and capital gains would starve U.S. companies of the investment capital required to help create much-needed American jobs.

As a diverse group of dividend-paying companies, investor organizations, and trade associations committed to strengthening the economy, we believe that maintaining lower tax rates on dividends and capital gains is sound public policy that fosters capital investment. Congress should stop a tax hike on dividends and capital gains to encourage long-term investment in our nation's economy and growth.



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