



July 24, 2012

Honorable Members of the U.S. Senate:

To achieve greater tax fairness while putting our nation on more solid fiscal footing, the National Community Tax Coalition strongly urges your support for the Middle Class Tax Cut Act (S.3412). And as a start, we ask that you vote to invoke cloture on this measure, allowing the legislation to move forward.

Through community-based tax preparation, asset-building, and financial education services for low- and moderate-income families, NCTC's more than 2,300 members are very familiar with the daily struggles of households who often work the hardest but have the least to show for their efforts. That's why we support S.3412's call for:

- Extending important improvements in tax credits that focus help where it's needed most. These include the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit; at stake is the loss of part or all of those credits' assistance for about 13.1 million families, who would lose an average of \$843 in assistance. Also threatened is the American Opportunity Tax Credit, which has helped millions of low- and middle-income students pay for the college educations they want to enter the workforce better-prepared for success.
- Extending reduced tax rates only for those families who need them most – those earning less than \$250,000 annually. Our nation simply cannot afford to retain tax cuts for the very wealthiest 2 percent of households, who already are faring far better than their lower- and middle-income counterparts.

Ending tax cuts for the most well-off will save \$829 billion over 10 years to help reduce our nation's deficit. This would better-protect the wide range of education, health care, and human services that our children and families need to thrive – supports that help to strengthen the well-being of hard-working households, the very core of our economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jackie Lynn Coleman".

Jackie Lynn Coleman
Executive Director