

AEGON USA, Inc
Akzo Nobel
Alcatel-Lucent
Alcon Holdings, Inc
Allianz of America
BASF
Ben & Jerry's Homemade, Inc.
Honda North America, Inc,
ING Americas, Inc.
Panasonic Corporation of North America
Suez Energy North America
Swiss Re
Thomson Corporation
Unilever

Dear Member of Congress:

As U.S. subsidiaries of companies based abroad, we are writing to express our strong opposition to including Rep. Lloyd Doggett's bill, H.R. 3160 in the farm bill. This measure is a discriminatory tax targeted specifically at companies insourcing jobs into the U.S. ***We urge you to vote against the Rule on H.R. 2419 to demonstrate that you oppose targeting companies with significant employment in the United States.***

Companies like ours play an important role in the growth and vitality of the U.S. economy, provide high-paying jobs for five million Americans and account for almost one-fifth of all U.S. exports. Discriminatory measures, like the Doggett legislation, send a hostile signal to our companies and other international investors. This bill will certainly dissuade companies like ours from choosing the United States as a location for job creating investment.

The provision under consideration would violate many of our bilateral tax treaties and could lead to retaliatory actions by other countries or withdrawal by our treaty partners from exiting treaties, harshly affecting U.S.-based businesses.

Congress has not held any hearings on this issue. There is no evidence that existing safeguards in current treaties are not effective. Further, if material tax abuses were evident; Treasury Secretary Paulson would not have strongly opposed this proposal.

We urge you to vote against the Rule on H.R. 2419 and to demonstrate your opposition to discriminatory tax increases on companies that support employment in the United States.

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