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June 17, 2014

The Honorable Robert W. Goodlatte
Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
2309 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Member
House Judiciary Committee
2426 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Goodlatte and Ranking Member Conyers:

On behalf of the more than one million members of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, I am writing to thank the Committee for considering H.R. 3806, The Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act, during tomorrow's executive session. We encourage all members of the Committee to vote favorably to pass this important bill and keep the Internet permanently free of state and local access taxes or any kind of multiple or discriminatory tax on electronic commerce.

The Internet has become an integral and vital part of the lives of almost all Americans, and it has greatly enhanced the ways that we as a nation learn, relax, and work. In the commercial world, the Internet is now so paramount that it is almost difficult to remember how business was conducted before its advent.

Nowhere is this more true than in real estate. The REALTOR® business model makes extensive use of the Internet. Prospective homebuyers search online for homes, offers are made and accepted, and transactions are even closed over the Internet. This makes the home purchase process far more efficient for buyers and sellers alike, and allows the REALTOR® to provide even better services for both parties.

REALTORS® were "early adaptors" of the Internet and its many applications, and continue to be heavy users of these technologies. Open and tax-free access to the Internet and related technologies has made it possible to bring a wealth of information to consumers about their communities and neighborhoods. We hope you agree that this information must continue to be available to all without being encumbered by additional taxes or government fees that would increase the cost of using this most valuable tool.

As you know, the current moratorium expires on November 1, 2014. Bravo to you and the Committee for being proactive on this important matter. Many thousands of your constituents will thank you for your support of this key legislation.

Sincerely,



Steve Brown
2014 President, National Association of REALTORS®

cc: Members of the House Judiciary Committee