



January 31, 2024

The Honorable Jason Smith
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: H.R. 7024 – TAX RELIEF FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES AND WORKERS ACT OF 2024 — SUPPORT

Dear Congress Member Smith,

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), thank you for introducing the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024 (H.R. 7024); we are pleased to support this proposal. We believe this legislation will provide needed aid to California residents that have been profoundly impacted by catastrophic wildfires that have devastated California in the past five years. RCRC is an association of forty rural California counties and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from each of those member counties.

RCRC member counties are home to over 80 percent of USDA Forest Service (USFS) land across California, and most of the state's catastrophic wildfires have profoundly impacted our rural communities over the past fifteen years. As California's wildfire seasons have worsened, residents have struggled with not only receiving timely insurance payouts, but with obtaining and maintain coverage at all, relying on emergency dollars to cover clean-up and rebuilding costs in many of our fire-ravaged communities.

The Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024 has the potential to aid families that have been devastated by wildfires in California and other states by extending relief from early-withdrawal penalties for qualified disaster distributions as well as providing income tax exclusions for certain wildfire relief payments made after December 31, 2019, and before January 1, 2026. This could be crucial to residents impacted by some of California's most destructive wildfires in the past decade.

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RCRC believes that this legislation has the potential to provide relief for California residents that have been impacted by our state's largest disasters in recent years. We look forward to working with you to ensure its passage into law.

For the above reasons, RCRC is pleased to support the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024. Please do not hesitate to contact me at sheaton@rcrcnet.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Staci Heaton", written in a cursive style.

STACI HEATON
Senior Policy Advocate

cc: The Honorable Ron Wyden, Member, United States Senate
Katie Wheeler Mathews, California Governor's Office, Washington D.C.