

Insert Date

The Honorable Insert First and Last Name
United States House of Representatives
Insert Address

Dear Representative **Insert Last Name**:

On behalf of **Insert Name of RA** and our **Insert #** members, we urge you to co-sponsor The Grow Philanthropy Act (H.R. 4907) and support the Private Foundation Excise Tax Simplification Act of 2015 (H.R. 640). A committee report was filed on H.R. 640 after it was included in H.R. 644 the America Gives More Act of 2015, which passed the House. Therefore, the standalone bill is closed to additional co-sponsors, but it can still be considered on the floor.

These bills will enhance philanthropy's ability to address critical needs in our state by expanding the IRA Charitable Rollover to donor advised funds (H.R. 4907) and simplifying the private foundation excise tax to flat 1 percent (H.R. 640).

Donor advised funds (DAFs) are powerful and increasingly popular tools for those wanting to make lasting commitments to their communities, whether the individual donor is of modest or high wealth. Now that the IRA Charitable Rollover – a powerful and popular source of charitable dollars – has been made permanent, we believe it is time to allow donors to give their retirement assets to their DAFs and increase philanthropy in our state. *If available, provide brief local example of how a donor advised fund has benefited the district/state, such as: Ohio's community foundations manage 5,095 DAFs that collectively awarded \$193 million in grants and held assets of over \$1.3 billion -- that's a 15% payout. We also know that community foundations manage these funds with the highest level of integrity, often helping donors identify worthy, effective grantees aligned with the donors' charitable intent.

Another proposal that would increase the amount of dollars invested in communities is the simplification and reduction of the private foundation excise tax. The current two-tiered rate is complex and penalizes foundations that step up in times of crisis to support their communities. Simplifying it to a 1% rate would increase dollars going to nonprofits. * If available provide an example, such as the following from OH: Given our foundation's current portfolio value, we project a 2% excise tax expenditure of approximately \$800,000 for FY 2016. In a straight arithmetic calculation, if a uniform 1% excise rate were in place, we would have an extra \$400,000 available for charitable grants to benefit the community this year.

As you already know, philanthropy builds thriving communities in our state by creating jobs, helping children succeed in school, filling gaps in the safety net and improving your constituents' lives in countless other ways. We hope that you will add your voice in support of these efforts by co-sponsoring H.R. 4907 and endorsing H.R. 640.

Thank you for considering this request and please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Insert Your Name

Insert Title

Insert Organization and Contact Info