



Utah Taxpayers Association

Utah's advocate for lower taxes and sound tax policy

June 17, 2015

Congressman Chaffetz –

The Utah Taxpayers Association fully supports the passage of H.R. 2775, the Remote Transactions Parity Act (RTPA). One of the cardinal principles of sound tax policy is equity. This legislation is an important step forward in bringing tax fairness to retail competitors.

It is understandable why in 1992 the Supreme Court issued the *Quill* decision because of the complexity of complying with collection of varying tax rates among thousands of jurisdictions within the states. But due to the work of the Streamlined Sales Tax Governing Board and improved technology we believe that remittance of remote sales taxes is no longer an undue burden. RTPA eliminates this unenforceable scenario and brings uniformity in how these transactions are handled. This legislation is an important step in ensuring the playing field is level among all retailers.

We also appreciate the small retailer exemption and phase in that has been included in H.R. 2775, as it will allow time for those retailers to comply.

As this legislation becomes law we call upon state lawmakers and local elected officials to complement this legislation with a simultaneous decreases in the state and local sales tax rates so that the tax policy change is revenue neutral. We see this as a key opportunity to broaden the tax base and lower the rate rather than providing a windfall of new tax revenue.

We look forward to the passage of the RTPA and commit to help gain support from our sister organizations across the nation.

Thank you for your courageous leadership in sponsoring this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Howard Stephenson
President, Utah Taxpayers Association