# TALKING POINTS:

# *Philanthropy Week in Washington*

**LEADING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES.**

Philanthropic leaders from across the country are gathering in Washington, D.C. during *Philanthropy Week in Washington* to meet with our Congressional delegations. For decades, our leaders have deployed across Capitol Hill for “Foundations on the Hill,” the centerpiece event during *Philanthropy Week in Washington.*

This year, we shine a spotlight on philanthropy’s critical role as a unique stakeholder in collective efforts to address some of today’s toughest challenges. Working with government, business, civic leaders, and nonprofits, philanthropy can be a dynamic partner that leverages its resources and leadership for the common good.

**PHILANTHROPY:**

**LEADER + PARTNER + CATALYST**

# TALKING POINTS:

# *House of Representatives*

*We urge you to demonstrate your support for philanthropy* ***by co-sponsoring the IRA Expansion Bill Name.***

*We urge you to demonstrate your support for philanthropy* ***by reenergizing this bill and co-sponsoring the Private Foundation Excise Tax Simplification Act of 2015.***

**Support *IRA Expansion Bill Name* (Bill #)**

***Note****: private foundations may not lobby on this topic.*

On \_\_\_\_\_\_, Representatives George Holding (R-NC-13) introduced the *bill name* (bill #) with names as co-sponor(s). This legislation would expand the IRA charitable rollover to allow contributions to donor advised funds (DAFs), others. It would also lower age.

The IRA charitable rollover was passed by Congress and signed into permanent law by President Obama on December 18, 2015 as part of the *Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act*. Though this legislative victory marked a momentous occasion for philanthropy, it failed to acknowledge that community foundations make as much as two-thirds of their grants from donor advised funds (DAFs).

DAFs are one of many philanthropic tools available for Americans to direct their philanthropic giving to support programs that build their communities, and remain involved in supporting the causes and issues they care about. Community foundations, in particular, enable people to “give where they live” through such tools, and employ subject-matter experts with in-depth community knowledge to manage DAFs.

**Support the *Private Foundation Excise Tax Simplification Act of 2015* (H.R. 640)**

On February 2, 2015, Representatives Erik Paulsen (R-MN-3) and Danny Davis (D-IL-7) introduced the *Private Foundation Excise Tax Simplification Act of 2015*. Co-sponsored by Representatives Tom Reed (R-NY-23), and Ryan Costello (R-PA-6), this bill would simplify the excise tax rate on the net investment income of tax-exempt private foundations to a flat rate of 1%.

The current private foundation excise tax is difficult to administer. Due to its overly complicated, two-tier structure, it often creates a disincentive when foundation consider increasing giving for unanticipated grants in times of need—such as natural disasters or tragedies.

In fact, current law actually can penalize foundations with higher tax rates for increasing giving during times of extraordinary need.

# TALKING POINTS:

# *House of Representatives*

*We urge you to demonstrate your support for philanthropy* ***by co-sponsoring this resolution***.

*We urge you to demonstrate your support for philanthropy* ***by joining and becoming active in the Philanthropy Caucus***.

**Support House Resolution (H.RES.) 668**

On March 23, 2016, Philanthropy Caucus Co-Chairs Pat Tiberi (R-OH-12) and John Lewis (D-GA-5) introduced a Resolution to express the sense of the House of Representatives that philanthropy is an integral partner to government with a unique and proven ability to foster innovation, strengthen civil society, and build thriving communities.

**Join the Philanthropy Caucus**

The House and Senate Philanthropy Caucuses were established in 2007 and 2008, respectively. Their purpose is to inform members of Congress and their staff about the important role that philanthropy and individual foundations play in their communities and around the world.

The House Philanthropy Caucus Co-Chairs are Pat Tiberi (R-OH-12) and John Lewis (D-GA-5).

Recent past Philanthropy Caucus events include:

* ***UPCOMING***: Philanthropy Week in Washington Reception – Thursday, April 14th, 4:30-6:30pm, SVC 203-02
* Lunch briefing on *Opportunities to Encourage Charitable Giving* – October, 2015
* Philanthropy Week in Washington lunch briefing: *The Power of Philanthropy in Your District*– March, 2015

# TALKING POINTS:

# *Senate*

*We urge you to demonstrate your support for philanthropy* ***by co-sponsoring the Charities Helping Americans Regularly Throughout the Year Act.***

**Support *Charities Helping Americans Regularly Throughout the Year Act* (S.2750)**

On April 6, 2016, Senators John Thune (R-SD) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) introduced the *Charities Helping Americans Regularly Throughout the Year Act* (S. 2750). This bill would:

* Express the sense of the Senate that encouraging charitable giving should be a goal of tax reform, and that Congress should preserve the scope and value of the charitable deduction;
* Expand the IRA charitable rollover to allow for distributions to donor advised funds (DAFs);
* Require DAF sponsors to disclose whether they adhere to an “inactive” or “dormant” funds policy, and if so, to describe and attach this policy on the Form 990 return;
* Require DAF sponsors to calculate and disclose average percentage of grants made from all managed DAFs during the current tax year, and the immediate three years preceding;
* Simplify the private foundation excise tax to a flat rate of 1%;
* Require nonprofits to electronically file the Form 990;
* Mileage
* Creates an exception for excess business holding tax rules for philanthropic business holdings where a foundation 1) holds the interests of the business enterprise at all times during the tax year, 2) directs all profits toward a charitable purpose, *and* 3) operates independently from the business enterprise.

# TALKING POINTS:

# *Senate*

*We urge you to demonstrate your support for philanthropy* ***by joining and becoming active in the Philanthropy Caucus***.

**Join the Philanthropy Caucus**

The House and Senate Philanthropy Caucuses were established in 2007 and 2008, respectively. Their purpose is to inform members of Congress and their staff about the important role that philanthropy and individual foundations play in their communities and around the world.

The Senate Philanthropy Caucus Co-Chairs are Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Richard Burr (R-NC).

Recent past Philanthropy Caucus events include:

* ***UPCOMING***: Philanthropy Week in Washington Reception – Thursday, April 14th, 4:30-6:30pm, SVC 203-02
* Philanthropy Week in Washington Reception: *Public-Philanthropic Partnerships Showcase* – March, 2015