Death Tax Battle Resumes

Sean Ferritor, The Seniors Coalition’s Executive Director, joined Senator John Thune, Congressman Kevin Brady, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, Americans for Tax Reform and a number of other members of Congress and key grassroots leaders to kick off a renewed effort to abolish the death tax.

Senator Thune and Congressman Brady have reintroduced Death Tax repeal bills in their respective chambers.

“This is a major organized effort to get rid of this tax,” Ferritor says. “The press conference was well attended, and TSC is prepared to play our part to get rid of the Death Tax.”

The Seniors Coalition has been fighting for a complete repeal of the tax for years, and Ferritor says he was very disappointed when Republicans in Congress last year cut a budget deal with President Obama that didn’t eliminate the tax. “I think we should have gotten rid of the tax last year, to be perfectly frank,” he says. “But pro-taxpayer groups and Capitol Hill Republicans now seem more organized and determined than ever. So, I’m optimistic.”

Senator Thune, who is the Chairman of the Senate Republican Conference and a member of the Senate Finance Committee, took a very public swipe at the Death Tax by declaring, “The federal government has no place forcing grieving families to pay a tax on their loved one’s

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TSC Sounds Warning About Obama’s Medicare “Gag Order”

The Seniors Coalition is sounding the alarm about an Obama Administration “gag order” placed on insurance companies that provide popular Medicare Advantage plans to seniors.

The order comes from Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and was made public by Republican Senate Leader Mitch McConnell on a recent edition of the television show Meet the Press. According to McConnell the government has told insurance companies that they “couldn’t inform their policyholders of what they thought the impact of Obamacare would be on them.”

“This is an outrageous, and I be-
Dear Friend,

While Washington is completely consumed by the Obama Administration’s scandals and the awful immigration bill, here at TSC we continue to monitor legislation that affects you and to make sure your voice is heard on Capitol Hill.

As you have read on page one of this newsletter, the fight is back on to abolish the Death Tax. Executive Director Sean Ferritor is really on top of this issue and TSC is absolutely in the thick of this battle.

On Social Security for illegal aliens, TSC is also continuing to lead. The U.S.-Mexico Social Security Totalization agreement could come up at any time, and we are ready to fight it.

On CoLAs, Congressman Engel’s bill was just reintroduced and we are working to help round up cosponsors. I expect Sean Ferritor will have some more news on this front in next month’s Senior Class.

And, of course, we are continuing to fight to save Medicare!

It’s quite busy here at TSC. We are making a real difference. However, none of this would have been possible without your help and support.

So, thank you and keep signing those petitions!

Dr. Joseph L. Bridges
President & CEO
The Seniors Coalition
Death Tax Battle Resumes

life savings that has been built from income already taxed when originally earned. Currently more than 70 percent of family businesses do not survive to the second generation, and 90 percent of family businesses do not survive to the third generation.”

For its part, The Seniors Coalition plans to help round up co-sponsors for the repeal bill in the House and the Senate as well as drum up public support for the measure.

“We really need our members to get behind this effort and to continue pressuring their elected Representatives,” Ferritor says. “These Congressmen and Senators are counting on TSC members to sign petitions, make phone calls, and personally talk to Congressmen and Senators about the Death Tax. The only way we’ll win this battle is to keep up the pressure.”

How to Contact Your Elected Officials

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<th>The White House</th>
<th>U.S. Senate</th>
<th>U.S. House of Representatives</th>
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<td>(202) 456-1414</td>
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Legislative Report from Sean Ferritor

It’s been a busy, busy month on Capitol Hill.

I’ve spent a good deal of time on the Death Tax repeal issue. We are working closely with Congressman Kevin Brady, Senator John Thune, and our great friends at Americans for Tax Reform.

I’m also in constant touch with Senator David Vitter’s office on the issue of the Social Security lockbox. We really need to push the Senator’s bill. The only way to keep the politicians in check and out of the Social Security Trust Fund is through this measure. I’m working right now to round up support for it.

On other issues of concern to seniors, I will say, that the Medicare gag order issue is going to be a huge one. I am working right now to set up meetings to learn more about how we can get this thing lifted. I’ll keep TSC’s members updated and involved as always.

That’s all for this month. If you have any questions or comments about our legislative or grassroots lobbying program, please feel free to give me a call at 202-261-3594.

Sean Ferritor reports from Capitol Hill
Members of Congress Respond To TSC Survey Campaign

“President Obama and Congressional Democrats have not offered a serious plan to save either (Social Security or Medicare). Instead, they took $500 billion out of Medicare to fund a new health care entitlement and created the IPAB—an unelected, unaccountable board of bureaucrats that will have the power to limit seniors’ access to medical care in order to meet a budget. With regard to Social Security, they have offered no plan at all.”


Members of Congress are beginning to respond to the results of TSC’s annual Legislative Survey. The first two Members of Congress to officially reply are Congressmen Jim Jordan and David “Phil” Roe.

Both Congressmen are Republicans and generally vote in line with The Seniors Coalition’s goals. Jordan is the former head of the conservative Republican Study Committee while Roe is a doctor.

Both Congressmen responded very favorably to receiving the survey results and encouraged TSC and its members to remain engaged in the public policy process.

Roe was especially critical of the Obama Administration in his letter.

TSC members can read these two letters in their entirety at www.senior.org.

The Seniors Coalition sent a copy of the results of this year’s Legislative Survey to every Member of Congress, the White House and key media outlets. ▲