

Speech Draft: Looming Tax Hikes in Michigan's 7th District

Thank you Mr. Chairman for the opportunity to be here.

I want to take a moment to address an urgent issue that directly impacts the hardworking families and small businesses in Michigan's 7th District: the expiration of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

These tax cuts, which brought relief to millions of Americans, are set to expire on December 31, 2025.

If Congress does not act, nearly every household and small business in our communities will face a significant tax hike.

Let's put this into perspective:

Michigan's 7th District is home to 466,800 taxpayers. If these tax cuts expire, the **average taxpayer will see their taxes increase by 23%**.

For a family of four earning \$78,000, the median household income in our district, that means paying **\$1,600 more in taxes every year**.

To many families, that's the equivalent of 10 weeks' worth of groceries—a staggering burden.

But the impact doesn't stop there:

More than 80,000 families in our district will see their Child Tax Credit cut in half, a vital support for parents trying to provide for their children.

92% of taxpayers will lose half of their guaranteed deduction, significantly reducing the amount of income shielded from taxation.

Our small business owners, the backbone of our local economy, will face even greater challenges.

For example, nearly 44,000 small businesses in mid-Michigan will see their tax rate rise to 43% if the Small Business Deduction expires.

And our farming families—those who work tirelessly to feed us and preserve our agricultural heritage—will see the Death Tax exemption slashed in half, making it a tremendous financial burden for the **4,300 family-owned farms** in the district to pass their operation to the next generation.

These numbers are not just statistics—they are stories of struggle and sacrifice.

They represent families deciding between paying their bills or putting money aside for the future.

Small business owners weighing whether they can afford to expand or hire.

Farmers grappling with the uncertainty of passing on their legacy to their children and grandchildren.

Let me be clear: this should not be a partisan issue.

This is about protecting the livelihoods of the people we serve.

Allowing these tax cuts to expire would roll back years of progress and place an unnecessary burden on our communities.

Now, some in Washington may want these tax cuts to remain temporary.

But I say this: there's nothing temporary about the hardworking spirit of the people in mid-Michigan.

The benefits we've seen—economic growth, higher wages, and more opportunity—should not be taken away.

As their voice in the People's House, I am committed to fighting to extend these tax cuts...

... because I believe in fighting to ensure that families keep more of what they earn, that small businesses maintain their competitive edge, and that the American Dream is kept alive for future generations.

Mr. Chairman, the people of my district sent me here to deliver a message: We will not stand for tax hikes that hurt our families, our small businesses, and our farms. It's time for Congress to act—before it's too late.

Thank you.