



STATE OF FLORIDA

BILL McCOLLUM
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 15, 2010

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman, Committee on Finance
United States Senate
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on Finance
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1501

The Honorable Sander M. Levin
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means
United States House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dave Camp
Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and Means
United States House of Representatives
341 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Baucus:

I am writing to request your consideration of legislation to exempt from income taxation payments made to Florida persons, from BP, due to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill for calendar year 2010. Exempting these payments from federal income tax would supplement the relief now being considered under the proposed Gulf Coast Oil Spill Loss Carryback amendment. It is critical that Florida's fishermen, shrimpers and other affected persons be able to utilize the oil spill compensation to the fullest extent.

Senator Baucus

Page Two

June 15, 2010

Along with eliminating a *federal* tax burden, the *Florida* corporate income tax on those payments would automatically be waived as it is based on federal taxable income. This would be double relief for those corporations subject to Florida corporate income tax who are adversely affected by the oil spill. By providing a federal tax benefit, the proposed legislation would help all adversely affected Floridians to feed their families, make their mortgage payments, and sustain themselves while their livelihood is at risk due to the oil spill.

I appreciate your timely consideration of this needed relief.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bill McCollum", written in a cursive style.

Bill McCollum

cc: The Honorable Bill Nelson
The Honorable George LeMieux
The Honorable Allen Boyd
The Honorable Jeff Miller