



# Repealing the 16th Amendment and Abolishing the IRS:

A Field Manual for Activists



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## **About Repeal 16**

The Coalition to Repeal the 16th Amendment, Repeal 16, is a national coalition of activists and organizations taking action to repeal the 16th Amendment, and end our corrupting tax system and the oppressive IRS.

The coalition does not advance a specific tax policy structure to replace the current tax code (e.g. FairTax vs. flat tax). It simply seeks to limit Congressional power to impose taxes on production (income, payroll, dividends, estates, etc.).

## About the Repeal 16 Legislation

Congressman Jim Bridenstine has introduced a bill (HJ Res 104) in the U.S. House of Representatives to repeal the 16th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution which allows the federal government to levy the income tax.

### Repeal 16 Partners

The Competitive Governance Action (CGA), a 501-c4 non-profit organization, committed to advancing self-governance and citizen participation, has agreed to manage the project for the coalition. Partners include Americans for Fair Taxation, Tea Party Patriots, Americans for Limited Government, and Free Market America.

Repeal 16 welcomes additional coalition partners, if your group would like to join the growing grassroots movement to repeal the 16th Amendment, please contact us today at info@Repeal16.org or visit our website at www.Repeal16.org.







## Sample Tweets for Repeal 16

Below are sample messages for Twitter related to abolishing the IRS and repealing the 16th Amendment.



It's time to end the IRS. #Repeal16 about 1 hour ago via Twitter

cal16.org



The IRS is a corrupt institution that targeted people for years for their political beliefs. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



The tax code is more than 72,000 pages long. It's time for real tax reform. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



The IRS has a long history of abuse and corruption. Abolish the IRS, repeal 16th amendment, and start fresh. #Repeal16 about 1 hour ago via Twitter



The #Repeal16 bill will end the income tax. Check out more here http://www.repeal16.org/repeal-16-bill.html about 1 hour ago via Twitter



I support @Repeal\_16 because the income tax has to go. RT #Repeal16 if you're with me. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter

#### Tweets about history



The Founding Fathers had rejected income taxes unless they were apportioned to each state according to population #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



The first income tax was created during the Civil War. This tax was repealed in 1872 and declared unconstitutional #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



Before income tax the majority of federal revenue came from tariffs, now nearly half of federal revenue is raised by income taxes #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter







### Tweets for reasons to repeal



In 1939 only 5% of the population was required to file tax returns. Today, more than 80% of the population is under the income tax. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



(Part 1) It is estimated that \$100 billion in federal revenues are lost each year from the underground economy. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



(Part 2) It is estimated that \$65 billion in federal revenues are lost each year because they are not reported. #Repeal16 about 1 hour ago via Twitter



(Part 3) Does this seem fair to the citizens that are paying their fair share in federal income tax? #Repeal16 about 1 hour ago via Twitter



(Part 1) In order to appeal tax cases, you must go through a system of tax courts which are without juries. #Repeal16 about 1 hour ago via Twitter



(Part2) In order to get a tax case into a regular court where there is a jury, the citizen must pay the tax and then sue the government. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



(Part 3) Is this a fair way for the government to prosecute tax cases? #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



Income taxes were unpopular from the very beginning when enacted during the civil war, prompting a repeal in 1872. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



Income taxes are so complex that there are 1.2 million tax preparers in the country 6 times more than the number of troops in Iraq. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter







### Tweets for reasons to repeal (continued)



Congress hands the accountants business on a silver platter when they create special interest tax forms. #Repeal16 about 1 hour ago via Twitter



The number of pages in the tax code and regulations doubled from 26,300 in 1984 to 54,846 by 2003 and is still growing. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



(Part 1) For years Americans have been calling for Congress to simply the tax code, but Congress ignores them. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



(Part 2) Instead, they vote for more special interest breaks further complicating tax code. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



The IRS asses \$32 million in penalties each year to hard working American citizens. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



There have been 25 major changes in the capital gains tax since 1922. It seems Congress has trouble measuring "income". #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



(Part 3) The IRS guide to IRAs alone is 105 pages long! #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter



The income tax distorts financial planning and business investment, and it encourages tax avoidance and evasion. #Repeal16

about 1 hour ago via Twitter







# How to Host a Town Hall Meeting for Repeal 16

This brief guide provides ideas for how to plan and organize an effective town hall meeting in your local area on the topic of the IRS and the 16th Amendment.

#### **Advance Planning**

- **1. Plan early!** You will need several weeks of lead-time, especially if you hope to have a Member of Congress participate.
- 2. Create an agenda for the town hall meeting. Identify the major theme.
- Identify a moderator. This person should be well-versed on the subject and able to keep the conversation going.
- 4. Secure a location.
- **5. Invite your Member of Congress to participate.** You may also want to invite other elected officials, depending on the topic. State and local government officials may be interested in participating.
- 6. Advertise the event. Use social media to reach a broad audience. If any elected officials are participating, encourage them to send out an email to their email lists.
- **7. Invite members of the press.** Contact your local radio show hosts and tell them about the event. If you have relationships with any local journalists or bloggers, extend a personal invitation.
- **8.** Encourage attendees to submit their questions in advance of the meeting to help manage time. You may want to set up a dedicated webform or Google Survey to keep track of submissions.
- Create a back-up list of questions to ask if there are breaks in the conversation at the meeting.
- **10. Prepare any handouts or documents** to distribute at the meeting.







# How to Host a Town Hall Meeting for Repeal 16 (continued)

### **DURING the Town Hall Meeting**

- 1. Welcome attendees and the guest speakers. Thank everyone for participating.
- 2. Introduce the moderator and the guest speakers.
- **3. Explain the agenda.** If using a PowerPoint presentation, display the agenda so everyone knows how the meeting will be organized.
- 4. Explain the purpose of the meeting and the chief objectives.
- **5. Allow the moderator to guide the discussion** and open with brief remarks and a few questions for the guest speakers.
- **6. Allow audience members to ask questions.** Remember that the purpose of the town hall is to provide a forum where citizens can get answers to their questions, so allow as many people as possible to ask questions.
- **7. Don't allow anyone in the audience to monopolize the microphone.** Maintain a set time limit for questions.

### AFTER the Town Hall Meeting

- 1. Thank everyone for attending.
- Encourage everyone to sign up with their email addresses so they can continue to hear from you.
- **3. Distribute a survey** (either in person or online) with questions about what the attendees liked about the event and what could be improved.
- **4.** If there are any actions that need to be taken as a result of the town hall (e.g. specific actions that the Member of Congress will take), write those down and follow-up with the appropriate people. Once progress has been made, email the attendees an update.







# Writing a Letter to the Editor

A letter to the editor of a newspaper is a great opportunity for you to express your opinion about a recent article published in the paper or an issue in the news. Letters to the editor allow activists to reach a broad audience, hold local journalists and elected officials accountable, and present alternative views on political issues and current events.

Letters to the editor are usually found in the first section of the newspaper or on the editorial page.

#### Guidelines for Getting a Letter to the Editor Published

Most newspapers publish guidelines with their specific requirements for getting a letter published, but here are some general rules that will help you get your letter to the editor published.

- **1. Provide contact information:** Include your name and address and a telephone number where you can be reached.
- **2. Be respectful:** Always be respectful and courteous, even when disagreeing with the Editorial Board about a specific issue.
- **3. Be specific:** If you are opposed to the 16th Amendment, mention the specific reasons why. Provide examples.
- **4. Cite your sources:** If you include any quoted material, be sure to correctly cite your source or attribute the quote.
- **5.** Use proper grammar: Spellcheck your letter and be sure to use proper grammar.
- **6.** Be concise: Letters to the editor are much more likely to be published if they are 300 words or less. Make your point as clearly and concisely as possible.







# Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is the 16th Amendment?

The 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution allows the Congress to levy an income tax without apportioning it among the states. The IRS was created as a result of the 16th Amendment.

# What is Repeal 16?

The Coalition to Repeal the 16th Amendment is a national coalition of activists and organizations taking action to repeal the federal income tax. The coalition includes a broad range of individuals and organizations demanding repeal of the 16th Amendment, and an end to our corrupt tax system and the oppressive IRS. The coalition does not advance a specific tax policy structure to replace the current tax code (e.g. the FAIR tax or flat tax).

# Why Repeal 16?

Fundamental tax reform is not being seriously considered in Washington, D.C. Why? Because incumbents, lobbyists, and crony capitalists are addicted to the taxpayer money that the current tax code, and its enforcer the IRS, rips from the paychecks and pockets of working Americans. They "love" a policy that turns your money and your wealth into the lobbying funds and campaign contributions that maintain the ruling elite in Washington, D.C.

## How does Repeal 16 engage?

The repeal question must be called during an election season. Every Member of Congress must be forced to declare where he or she stands: with the American people or with the IRS. "Repeal 16" will advocate for immediate passage of a bill repealing the 16th Amendment and make repeal a top issue in the 2014 Congressional primary election season.







# Get Involved Today!

- ◆ SIGN THE PETITION at www.Repeal16.org and sign up for email updates
- ◆ Email us at Info@Repeal16.org
- Share Repeal 16's latest news on Facebook.com/Repeal16
   and Twitter @Repeal\_16
- Volunteer to host an event or speaker
- ◆ **SPREAD THE WORD!** Update your Facebook profile picture or wall cover photo or add an event graphic
- ◆ STAND WITH REP. BRIDENSTINE
  Go to www.Repeal16.org and
  use what you've learned to tweet
  your support!







