

Last week, Gus joined a bipartisan group of lawmakers in submitting a letter to the House Ways & Means Committee, which crafts the nation's tax policy, encouraging the committee to include the extension of the state and local sales tax deduction when Congress considers a larger tax extension package early next year.

Taxpayers in states with an income tax are entitled to a federal deduction for state income taxes they pay, preventing the double taxation of funds that have already been collected by the state.

Since 2004, Congress has agreed that taxpayers in sales tax states should be treated equally in the tax code as taxpayers in states that rely on an income tax. The deduction is set to expire at the end of this year, and without the extension, taxpayers in states without an income tax, such as Florida, will shoulder a larger piece of the federal tax burden.

"Sales taxes add up for families," Gus said. "This extension would protect them from a significant tax increase and allow them to keep more of their hard-earned dollars."

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