



Announcement: Federal Conservation Tax Benefits to Become Permanent?

On May 25th, 2011 Representatives Jim Gerlach (R-PA) and Mike Thompson (D-CA) introduced the Conservation Easement Incentive Act. This bill would make permanent the enhanced tax deduction for conservation easement donations that will otherwise expire at the end of this year. Reps. Gerlach and Thompson are accompanied by an impressive 251 additional original sponsors, including the Chairman, the Ranking Democrat and a majority of both parties on the Ways & Means Committee.

Your Representative can still sign on as a co-sponsor. In fact, some members who were reluctant to be listed as original co-sponsors will feel more comfortable signing on now that so many others are listed publicly. Call your representative's office, ask for the staff member who handles tax issues, and urge them to cosponsor the Conservation Easement Incentive Act by contacting Lori Prater in Rep. Jim Gerlach's office or Carla McNeill in Rep. Mike Thompson's office.