November 30, 2017

Dear,

I am writing as a constituent and owner of (Tom’s Bowl in Hartland, WI). I am reading with interest what is being considered in Washington, D.C. regarding tax reform. As a small business owner and a member of the Bowling Proprietors’ Association of America (BPAA), I urge you to consider lowering tax rates, repealing the estate tax and, most importantly, preserving the full deductibility of interest debt as tax reform moves forward in Congress. I support changes to our tax code that provide certainty to bowling proprietors and all small business owners that encourage economic growth and spur job creation in our communities.

Small business owners, like me, are particularly focused on preserving interest deductibility. Interest deductibility has been critical for many bowling proprietors’ ability to expand our operations and workforce, and invest in new technology. My business is very capital intensive and I rely on the ability to write off projects spread out over many years since my equipment has a long life cycle. For example, lanes and pin setters have an approximate life span of 15 to 20 years. The depreciation over time gives our business stability. Another impact of this elimination would be that our business would be harder to sell since the person purchasing the business would not be able to write off the interest paid. I fear this would reduce the value of my business. The elimination of interest deductibility for 100% capital expensing will harm many bowling proprietors who rely on debt financing.

I am proud to be a family-owned small business owner in your district. Tom’s Bowl started in 1982 and today has 35 employees. My family and I are enthusiastic about giving back to the community and those in need. Just this year we have donated XX back to the community and those in need. It is truly a privilege to be part of a network of Bowling Centers in the US that raise over $225 million annually for various charities. Bowling centers are the fabric of our communities. With over 67 million bowlers hitting the lanes annually, bowling is the #1 participatory sport in the country. It is without a doubt that bowling has a positive effect on the economy.

By supporting the policies outlined here, fellow bowling proprietors and I will have new opportunities to grow, innovate, and invest in our businesses and communities. Please use me as a resource whenever I can be of assistance to you and your staff. I appreciate your time, consideration, and commitment to public service. If you have any questions on how tax reform may affect my business, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,