

August 28, 2019

The Honorable Dick Durbin
The United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed
The United States Senate
728 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin The United States Senate 709 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal The United States Senate 706 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sherrod Brown The United States Senate 503 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 201510 The Honorable Tammy Duckworth The United States Senate 524 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein The United States Senate 331 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mazie K. Hirono The United States Senate 713 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
The United States Senate
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
The United States Senate
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bernard Sanders The United States Senate 332 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren The United States Senate 309 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse The United States Senate 530 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

## **RE: Stop Corporate Inversions Act of 2019 (S.2140)**

Dear Senators Durbin, Reed, Baldwin, Blumenthal, Brown, Duckworth, Feinstein, Hirono, Leahy, Merkley, Sanders, Warren, and Whitehouse,

We write on behalf of the Financial Accountability and Corporate Transparency (FACT) Coalition to express our strong support for your Stop Corporate Inversions Act of 2019 (S.2140), which would combat tax avoidance by preventing inverted corporations from being treated as foreign companies when they have not left the United States in any legitimate sense.

The FACT Coalition is a non-partisan alliance of more than 100 state, national, and international organizations working toward a fair tax system that addresses the challenges of a global economy and promoting policies to combat the harmful impacts of corrupt financial practices.

We support putting an end to corporate inversions because such gimmicks allow companies to maximize the benefits of exploiting offshore tax loopholes. This type of tax dodging hurts American small businesses and costs U.S. taxpayers billions in foregone revenue that could be used to fund public programs and infrastructure, cut taxes for middle class families, or lower our national debt.

Under the current system, companies that invert can easily continue to benefit from the stable financial system, markets, educated workforce, and infrastructure in our country while simultaneously claiming that U.S.-earned profits were earned in a low- or no-tax jurisdiction. In other words, it allows U.S.-based multinational corporations to benefit from their U.S. residence without paying to support the very system that earns them such record-high profits.

These tax gimmicks are used most regularly by the largest and most highly profitable multinational corporations, at the detriment of small and wholly domestic American businesses. U.S. businesses who are unwilling or unable to invert are forced to compete with these multinational corporations not just on the merits of their products and services, but also on the cleverness of their tax attorneys.

By requiring that an inverted company meets certain thresholds to be considered foreign for tax purposes, the Stop Corporate Inversions Act would significantly limit tax avoidance facilitated by inversions. Businesses that are owned, operated, and profiting in the United States should pay taxes in the United States — not in a tax haven country where their business presence is often little more than a mailbox and some paperwork.

We applaud your reintroduction of this bill and thank you for your continued leadership in fighting tax avoidance and leveling the playing field for patriotic Americans and domestic businesses.

Sincerely,

**Gary Kalman**Executive Director

**Clark Gascoigne**Deputy Director

**FACT**COALITION