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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

January 28, 2002

**Committee On Appropriations**

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The Honorable Paul O'Neill  
Department of Treasury, Secretary  
15th and Pennsylvania, NW  
Washington DC 20220

Dear Secretary O'Neill:

America is the world's biggest beneficiary of tax competition. Our tax burden may be too high, but we are a fiscal paradise compared to many other industrialized nations. This has enabled us to lure capital to the U.S. economy, creating jobs and boosting our markets. Needless to say, it would be foolish to undermine this competitive advantage by supporting international tax harmonization schemes.

This is why I am so pleased by your resistance to the so-called "harmful tax competition" proposals of the European Union and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. These international bureaucracies are representing the interests of Europe's welfare states, many of which are seeking "information exchange" so they would have greater ability to tax income earned in America.

I encourage you to continue your defense of America's interests. Thanks to our pro-market policies – which will be enhanced as the President's tax cut is implemented, we should resist any efforts to create a tax cartel or a "global network of tax police."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack".

Jack Kingston  
Member of Congress

JK:cal