

## **Statement before the DC Tax Revision Commission**

**Tuesday, 12 November 2013**

This will be a brief statement.

I have read some of the detailed papers that support policies to change the DC tax code to make taxation more equitable and to alleviate some of the burden on the middle and lower income tax brackets, especially to find ways to reduce the heavy tax burden on the lowest 20% of city's residents.

The continued growth of income inequality nationwide is a serious threat to the welfare of the society at large and poses a threat of our democracy generally. This tax commission can take an important, albeit small, step to support equality not inequality with changes to the DC tax code.

Fairness is an important mission objective of your work. Adjusting the tax brackets to raise the rate paid by the top 1% or 5% of the population would help. Supporting a way to return sales taxes to the lowest city earners could contribute to reducing poverty and assist those earning less than a living wage to get by a little easier.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this simple statement in support of your work for a fairer DC tax system and in turn a more equitable city.

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