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February 9, 2012

Timothy Geithner  
Secretary  
Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Geithner,

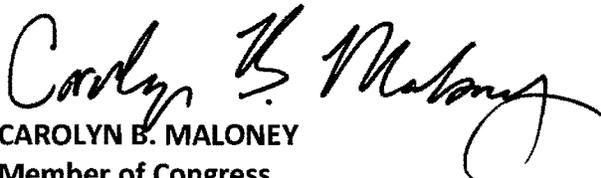
In the past I have written to you and your predecessor with concerns over reports that American citizens living and working abroad may not have access to foreign financial institutions because of U.S. policies. As the Chair of the Congressional Americans Abroad Caucus I want to ensure that the concerns of U.S. citizens abroad are being addressed. I have received testimonials from Americans living across the globe who report that they are being denied personal banking services or having existing accounts closed, because of concerns with the implementation of the USA PATRIOT Act and with concerns about the impending implementation of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) cited as the reason by both American banks and their overseas subsidiaries as well as foreign banks. While we support your efforts to improve tax compliance, U.S. citizens who are overseas residents should not be impaired by these efforts. The vast majority of the U.S. citizens abroad are hard-working middle class individuals and families whose incomes are not sufficient to have anything to hide.

Recently my staff met with Treasury Department staff to discuss these concerns and to hear about the development of the FATCA proposed rules, which your staff expressed should not cause a disruption to banking services for overseas Americans. I believe it would be beneficial and constructive for groups representing and disseminating information to overseas Americans to meet with members of your staff to learn about the rollout of FATCA and implementation of other rules such as USA PATRIOT Act and Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR) that impact overseas Americans. Given the outreach the groups have already done, I know they would be eager to share the concerns and personal testimonials of their membership. I have included a list of individuals and organizations that represent Americans aboard

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that I think would be helpful to include in a meeting. Please let my office know how we might be helpful in facilitating a meeting.

Sincerely,

  
CAROLYN B. MALONEY  
Member of Congress