

Find your Representative's contact information at www.house.gov

If your Representative's website will not accept your foreign email address, fax your letter instead.

Address it to: The Honorable (your Representative)

Adapt the letter below as you like or send it as is. Adding a personal story is always a plus!

Always remember to give your voting address in the United States!

Dear (enter the name of your Representative),

I am a constituent of yours and have a (friend, son, niece, etc.) currently living in (friend/relative's host country). Today I am writing to urge your support for HR 597, calling for the creation of a bipartisan federal commission *to study the impact of government policies on Americans living and working abroad and to make recommendations to Congress* to improve drafting and implementation of policies concerning the overseas population.

According to the State Department, there are some *6.3 million Americans living and working abroad*, estimated by the Federal Voting Assistance Program to account for *over 3% of the vote* in the United States. Though they are unofficial ambassadors for our country, its businesses and services, they all too often suffer the unintended consequences of laws enacted without taking them into consideration: difficulties in transmitting their U.S. citizenship, a prohibitive double tax liability that makes them uncompetitive in international markets, barriers to access to financial services both in the United States and abroad...

In the words of Carolyn Maloney, original sponsor of HR 597, "Americans living and working overseas constitute a kind of unsung constituency. They pay taxes and vote, but U.S. policies can have unintended and sometimes irrational consequences on their lives... It is time we acquire a thorough, comprehensive understanding of the federal policy impacts on these Americans, which this bill would provide."

As your constituent, I strongly encourage you to look at HR 597 and consider co-sponsoring it, demonstrating your support for America's important global community.

Yours sincerely,

(your name)

(your voting address)