

Exhibit 94

Rep. Duncan Hunter said GOP tax bill could cost Californians more than others, but he still supports it



Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Alpine, talks with attendees of a House Armed Services Committee hearing in Rayburn Building in 2014. (Tom Williams / CQ Roll Call)



By **Joshua Stewart**

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Rep. [Duncan Hunter](#) said one proposal discussed as part of an income tax overhaul in Congress would hit his constituents and other Californians hard in their wallets, but he still supports a Republican plan to change the federal tax system because he believes it will help citizens across the country.

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“Why punish the rest of the nation because California is stupid?” Hunter, an [Alpine](#) Republican, said in an Oct. 27 interview with KUSI. “It’s a tough vote for me, but I’m not gonna keep the economy down for the whole country because California has bad government.”

One early version of the tax code overhaul suggested revoking people’s ability to deduct their state and local property taxes on the federal income taxes, which disproportionately benefits taxpayers in states and cities with high taxes. One of the KUSI hosts told Hunter that Californians would “get hosed” by the [GOP](#) tax proposal.

“California, New Jersey, New York, and other states that have horrible governments, yes. It’s not as good for those states,” Hunter replied.

One of the show’s hosts noted that Hunter represents California, but Hunter said that the entire country’s economy will improve, and the Golden State’s residents will see a boost as well.

“Sure, but this is a national tax code, and if the rest of the economy goes up for the rest of the country, it’s gonna help everybody,” Hunter said.

On Monday Hunter’s spokesman, Michael Harrison, said the congressman believes that the plan’s goal to lower taxes for individuals and families, repealing the estate tax, increasing the child tax credit and other provisions, are important and worthwhile.

After growing pressure from within the Republican party, Rep. [Kevin Brady](#), R-Texas, said that the state and local tax deduction, as well as two other popular money-savers (the charitable giving and mortgage deductions) would be protected under the plan included in the tax legislation that is expected to be released Wednesday.

On Thursday the House passed a budget 216-212, a GOP victory that came after 20 Republicans crossed party lines. Eleven of the defectors came from New York or New Jersey, and they called for a compromise on the state and local tax deduction in the upcoming tax bill. All 14 Californians in the House voted for the budget.

Some are calling state and local governments to cut their constituents taxes to lessen the sting of any lost deduction that becomes part of the tax plan.

“I implore you to turn away from the era of ever-increasing taxes that have continued under your Administration and instead seek policies that actually lower the tax burden on all Californians,” Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Vista, wrote in a letter to Gov. [Jerry Brown](#).

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The governor had earlier written to members of California's House delegation and asked them to vote against the any proposal that would eliminate the state and local tax deduction.

"Getting rid of an individual's ability to deduct his or her California taxes is a horrible idea, but is made far worse when you preserve - at the same time - the right of corporations to take those same deductions," Brown wrote.

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