American Citizens Abroad (ACA) sees results from recent write in campaign, ”Tax Fairness for Americans Overseas: An Idea Worth Fighting For!”

As a follow-up to its campaign launched on September 5th, Tax Fairness for Americans Overseas: An Idea Worth Fighting For!, today ACA updated members and supporters on results from the write in campaign asking House Ways & Means Committee members to hold hearings on the tax and compliance issues affecting Americans living and working overseas.

After visits to Congressional offices last week, ACA heard from Representatives and House Ways & Means Committee members that the messaging to hold hearings was getting into key offices involved in tax reform for Americans overseas. Some Representatives’ offices were also forwarding messages received from constituents to House Ways & Means Committee members. “This is clearly a sign that the campaign is working and that community voices are being heard.” said Jonathan Lachowitz ACA Chairman.

The Tax Fairness for Americans Abroad: An Idea Worth Fighting For! campaign makes it easy for US citizens overseas, or any US citizen interested in the subject matter, to write to their Representatives in Congress and to the tax writing committee – the House Ways & Means Committee - without having to look up addresses and copy/paste information. “It’s as easy as 1,2,3,” said Marylouise Serrato, ACA Executive Director, “supporters simply click on our “act today” prompt, fill-in their US voting address and click. There is even room for supporters to add a short personal message.”

ACA believes that it is essential for hearings to be held on the tax and compliance issues for Americans overseas. As it has stated on ACA’s website, hearings are the next step in the legislative process and need to be held so that the US House Ways & Means Committee can hear about the wide range of tax compliance issues facing the overseas Americans community from stakeholders and citizens. With knowledge from hearings, the tax-writing committees and legislators will start to look at specifics of legislative proposals for refinement. Treatment of items like Social Security income, income associated with the new “transition tax” and GILTI, and different types of PFIC income, will need more consideration and details will need to be worked out to determine how these income streams will be taxed under any new residency-based tax regime.

ACA moved the campaign into stage two this week with new videos, social media, podcasts and marketing efforts. “Anyone affected by the current tax policy or interested in tax reform for Americans overseas should definitely join the campaign. The more voices the better our chances for legislative change.” added Michael Larsen, ACA Director and UK Chapter Chairman.

ACA encourages its members and supporters to let others know about the campaign to help spread the word.