

**\*\*\*News Statement\*\*\***

# United States Congress

**For Immediate Release**  
June 15, 2015

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## **Statements from sponsors of the Marketplace Fairness Act on Rep. Chaffetz's e-fairness bill**

Washington, D.C. – Today Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-Utah) introduced e-fairness legislation, the Remote Transactions Parity Act of 2015 (RTPA). The lead Senate sponsors of the Marketplace Fairness Act issued the following statements in response.

**U.S. Senator Mike Enzi, R-Wyo.:** “It is encouraging to see continued bipartisan work in the House that support states’ rights to collect their own sales and use taxes, leveling the playing field for retailers. I believe this effort by Congressman Chaffetz and his colleagues will help Congress finally pass the needed reforms that currently force thousands of local businesses to compete at a disadvantage. With the Senate’s passage the Marketplace Fairness Act in the last Congress with 69 votes, we know that real bipartisan change is possible.”

**U.S. Senator Dick Durbin, D-Ill.:** “I am pleased a bipartisan group in the House is moving forward with legislation to level the playing field for small businesses and to allow states to enforce state and local sales and use tax laws. It has been more than two years since the Senate overwhelmingly passed the bipartisan Marketplace Fairness Act. That means two holiday, back-to-school, and summer shopping seasons where brick and mortar Main Street retailers have been at a disadvantage when competing with their online competitors. I hope the House does not delay consideration of legislation to level the playing field for Main Street businesses. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to work out the differences between our two bills and sending a bill to the President this year.”

**U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn.:** “I support Congressman Chaffetz’s bill to restore to states the right to treat all state taxpayers equally and stop picking winners and losers. Fixing this problem is about two words: states’ rights. I don’t think

Tennessee or any other state should have to play ‘Mother, may I?’ with the federal government when deciding whether to collect, or not collect, a state tax that is already owed.”

**U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D.:** “Leveling the playing field for our local brick-and-mortar shops so they can compete with Internet retailers is the right thing for American businesses, jobs, and our local economies. For 22 years, small business owners have been waiting for Congress to help them compete. Just as we did in the Senate last Congress, today the House of Representatives introduced bipartisan legislation to support Main Street. It’s time to advance bipartisan legislation that promotes fair play for every small business in this country – both on and offline.”

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