



November 9, 2017

RE: Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

Dear Members of Congress:

As you know, the proposed *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* (Section 1204, page 96) currently being considered by the U.S. House, and soon to be considered by the U.S. Senate, eliminates **Section 127 of the Internal Revenue Code**; (*Tax Cuts and Job Act Section-by-Section SUMMARY* Section 1204, page 11) and the exclusion for employer-related Educational Assistance Programs.

We urgently seek your support to not eliminate Section 127 of the *Internal Revenue Code*!

Educational Assistance Programs authorized by Section 127 of the Internal Revenue Code currently enable more than 11,500 **Cristo Rey Network** students from low-income families in 32 schools across the United States, and have enabled more than 13,300 Cristo Rey graduates, to access an exceptional college preparatory education.

Under Section 127(a), Cristo Rey schools have adopted Education Assistance Plans whereby student workers are not taxed on their CWSP earnings of \$5250 per student per year, because such amounts are paid for by the educational assistance of the student worker. Elimination of Section 127 of the *Internal Revenue Code* would cause those students to be taxed on their income and would certainly affect their family income and potentially students' ability to qualify for college aid and loans. We believe that the elimination of Section 127 would have a disastrous effect on our Corporate Work Study Programs and on our schools' financial sustainability.

We also ask your support to retain the **New Markets Tax Credits** program (*Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Section-by-Section SUMMARY* Section 3406, page 43), which has benefited many Cristo Rey students with new classroom space.

Please help us save these essential provisions in the current tax code!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Goettl".

Elizabeth Goettl
President and CEO

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