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Rep. Garrett Votes Against Tax Increase on Married Couples

Action Will Prevent Tax Increase on 30 Million Couples

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Rep. Scott Garrett (NJ-05) hailed passage of a House plan that will prevent tax increases on 30 million married couples. The marriage penalty relief bill will return \$12 billion to working families.

"The only vow a couple should make on their wedding day is to each other, not to the Tax Man," said Garrett. "The average family of four will see their taxes rise by over \$300 if Congress doesn't act this year."

Before 2001, a married couple earning similar incomes paid more in taxes than two single taxpayers filing individually. Tax relief passed by Congress in 2001 phased out these penalties by providing couples a standard deduction that is twice that of single taxpayers. Today's House action would continue the benefits of the 2001-passed tax relief and prevent married couples from facing the following average tax increases:

Resulting Increases From Failure to Extend Full Marriage Penalty Relief

Income Range	Average Current	Average Tax	% Increase
	Income Tax Liability	Increase	In Tax Burden
\$10,000 to \$15,000	\$6	\$33	563%
\$15,000 to \$20,000	\$168	\$116	69%
\$20,000 to \$25,000	\$592	\$126	21%
\$25,000 to \$30,000	\$954	\$127	13%
\$30,000 to \$40,000	\$1,525	\$178	12%
\$40,000 to \$50,000	\$2,466	\$188	8%
\$50,000 to \$75,000	\$4,645	\$260	6%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	\$8,274	\$573	7%

Source: Tax Foundation Individual Tax Model