



**For Immediate Release
April 3, 2008**

**Contact: Tara Bradshaw
202.467.4306**

COALITION TO PROTECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE

CPIC PRAISES HOUSE SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE CHAIRWOMAN NYDIA M. VELASQUEZ AND RANKING MEMBER STEVE CHABOT FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP ON THE BUSINESS ACTIVITY TAX SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 2008

VELASQUEZ URGES CONYERS TO TAKE UP LEGISLATION IN THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

(Washington, DC)— The Coalition to Protect Interstate Commerce (CPIC) today praised House Small Business Committee Chairwoman Nydia M. Velasquez and Ranking Member Steve Chabot for their leadership in urging House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers to support and take Committee action on H.R. 5267, the Business Activity Tax Simplification Act of 2008.

In a March 28, 2008 letter to House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers, Velazquez and Chabot urged the Judiciary Committee to “examine this topic.....[it] is an extremely important issue for micro-firms that need clear concise laws so that they can flourish in our new economy.”

“Chairwoman Velasquez has listened to small businesses that are suffering as a result of onerous and multiple taxation by the states where they have customers but no physical presence,” said Tara Bradshaw, spokeswoman for the Coalition to Protect Interstate Commerce. “She should be applauded for her efforts to urge Chairman Conyers to take quick action in addressing this legislation. The entrepreneurial spirit upon which this great country was founded and which allows large and small businesses alike to be the engine of growth for our economy, is being jeopardized as an increasing number of states clearly overreach in their efforts to collect state business activity taxes.”

The text of the Velasquez/Conyers letter to House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers is attached.

The link the February 14, 2008 Small Business Committee Hearing witness testimony on “Business Activity Taxes and their Impact on Small Businesses” follows:
<http://www.house.gov/smbiz/hearings/hearing-02-14-08-business-tax/hearing-02-14-08-business-tax.htm>

###