To AAMC Government Relations Representatives (GRRs):

The White House Office of Public Engagement Dec. 7 hosted conference calls for the charitable giving community as well as college and university leaders. The White House reiterated its opposition to “imposing a dollar cap on itemized deductions, including charitable contributions,” in lieu of “raising the tax rate for the most fortunate,” as outlined in the White House blog post:

*[Why Taking Tax Rates Off the Table Threatens Non-Profits and Charitable Giving](http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2012/12/07/why-taking-tax-rates-table-threatens-non-profits-and-charitable-giving" \t "_blank)*

In response to a question about how the White House proposal differs from the proposal put forth by Republicans, a spokesperson explained that the president would not limit the amount of money that could be given to charity and claimed as a deduction. Instead his proposal would limit the tax rate at which high-income taxpayers can reduce their tax liability to a maximum of 28 percent, affecting only married taxpayers filing a joint return with income over $250,000 (at 2009 levels) and single taxpayers with income over $200,000.

The White House highlighted a new report by the National Economic Council available at:

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/uploads/nec\_charitable\_report.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/uploads/nec_charitable_report.pdf" \t "_blank)

Finally, the White House made a call for action in support of the president’s plan, asking institutions to contact Congress with examples of how the Republican's proposed plan will impact charitable giving. **Please share any advocacy correspondence on this issue with the AAMC contacts below** as well as with Kyle Lierman <[klierman@who.eop.gov](mailto:klierman@who.eop.gov" \t "_blank)> in the White House Office of Public Engagement.

House Ways and Means Committee Chair Dave Camp (R-Mich.) and Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) issued the following statement in response to the call:

[http://waysandmeans.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=314812](http://waysandmeans.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=314812" \t "_blank)

AAMC participated in the White House call and will continue to track the issue with higher education associations and through the Ad Hoc Tax Group coalition.

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