

MAC THORNBERRY
13TH DISTRICT
TEXAS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE
BUDGET COMMITTEE
RESOURCES COMMITTEE

April 22, 2002

Mr. Robert W. Baker
PO Box 451
Booker, Texas 79005-0451

Dear Mr. Baker,

Thank you for contacting me about the IRS and H.R. 4169, a bill that would prohibit U.S. cooperation with the ICC. I appreciate hearing from you.

I agree with you that we need to lower taxes and reform the IRS. Since I was first elected, the issue of tax reform is one which people have raised quite often. Last year, Congress past the largest tax cut since 1981. Included in the tax cut was a cut in income tax rates, a reduction of the marriage penalty and a repeal of the death tax, which I have been pushing for since before I was elected. While this was a good start, more needs to be done to make the tax system fairer for all Americans.

I am also very concerned about any international body which could try to exercise jurisdiction over United States citizens, including the International Criminal Court (ICC). If formally ratified, the ICC would be granted the authority to investigate and bring to justice individuals who commit serious crimes internationally. Former President Clinton signed the ICC treaty before he left office, but the Senate has not ratified the treaty. Additionally, there has been some indication that President Bush may rescind the signature on the treaty.

H.R. 4169 has been referred to the House Committee on International Relations. As legislation on this issue comes to the House floor I will keep your concerns in mind.

Again, thank you for contacting me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mac Thornberry'.

Mac Thornberry
Member of Congress

WMT:dcj