Lacie Thorne
[redacted]

March 24, 2015

Re: Expat Americans and Federal Taxes

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Lacie Thorne. I'm an American citizen living in Hong Kong and I am writing to express my support for changing the U.S. Federal tax system to a residency, rather than citizenship, based system for individuals. We moved to Hong Kong with my husband's American-based company, JP Morgan in 2013.

The cost and complexity of filing taxes from Hong Kong has been an extreme burden since we moved here, and I am perplexed by FATCA's ability to peer into my personal banking account. As a result of my husband's job-transfer to this foreign country, we are being double-taxed and face excessive reporting.

I support a same-country exception when reporting "foreign" bank accounts under FATCA so that as an American living in Hong Kong, my Hong Kong accounts are not considered "foreign" for myself or my foreign financial institution.

I would like to suggest changing the definition of a U.S. person in **section 7701(a)(30) of the federal tax code**. By changing the definition of a U.S. person for tax purposes in the code (e.g. if a U.S. person meets the bona fide residence test or physical presence test for two or three consecutive tax years, they are no longer considered a U.S. person for federal income tax and reporting purposes). This is a change that should not need legislative action and would provide a lot of overseas Americans with tremendous relief.

I look forward to one day returning to our home country of America and enjoying the bounty it has to offer. But until then, I am essentially paying taxes for public services I don't use. I don't drive on American roads or utilize American public schools. I shouldn't pay taxes while living overseas.

Thank you and best regards,



Lacie Thorne