



# ACTION ALERT

April 7, 2005

## **Permanent Repeal of Estate Tax to be Considered by House 4/13 or 4/14**

*Although Prospects for Passage Good, Grassroots Support Needed; Call Your Representative*

**The House of Representatives is expected to consider legislation to permanently repeal the estate tax on Wednesday, April 13 or Thursday, April 14.** The legislation (H.R. 8) was introduced by Ways and Means Committee member Representative Kenny Hulshof (R-MO) and Representative Bud Cramer (D-AL) on February 17. The bill is expected to pass given the sizeable GOP majority in the House. **However, we still need your grassroots support as N.G.A. looks to future Senate consideration. The larger the margin of passage in the House, the stronger the message will be to the Senate to act to put an end to this unfair and destructive tax. Passage is by no means assured in the Senate so a strong signal from the House is imperative to maximize the chances of permanent repeal becoming law.**

In the Senate, Senator Kyl (R-AZ) has introduced a companion bill (S. 420) which provides for permanent repeal of the death tax.

Under current law, the estate tax is scheduled to be repealed for estates of individuals who die in 2010. But without further congressional action, the tax will be reinstated in full in 2011. In 2005 the estate tax exemption is \$1.5 million and the highest federal estate tax rate is 47%.

N.G.A. has been a leading advocate for permanent repeal of the death tax on behalf of family-owned retail and wholesale grocers for over a decade. The opportunity to permanently repeal this unfair tax is at hand if through your grassroots contacts with Representatives and Senators, we can secure passage by a large margin in the House and achieve 60 votes in the Senate.

**Please call your Representatives and encourage them to vote for H.R. 8. Call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 225-3121 and ask to speak to their offices.**