

Outlook for Tax Legislation in the Year Ahead

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Topics to Cover

- Divided Government
- Prospects for legislation in 2019
- Impact of the 2017 tax legislation

Divided Government

- Self created deadlines
- Uncertain resolution
- Stalemate plus standstill

Extenders

- Last extension was for 2017 tax year – examples of 2017 and 2018 expired provisions
 - Income exclusion for mortgage debt forgiveness
 - Qualified tuition deduction
 - Energy tax incentives
- Extension for 2018 is still possible, but would require amended returns
- Outlook for extenders?

Tax Administration

- Bipartisan
- Key Provisions
 - Establishing independent office of appeals
 - Codification of low income tax preparation
 - Cybersecurity and identity protections
- Outlook?

Retirement Enhancement and Savings Act (RESA)

- Bipartisan
- Key Provisions
 - Open MEPs
 - Safe harbor to encourage annuity distribution options in 401(k) plans
 - Tax deductible IRA contributions for seniors working past 70 ½

Bipartisan Cooperation

- New chairman
- Infrastructure – Move America Bonds
- Oversight

Other Wyden Priorities

- Tale of Two Tax Codes: Middle class is left behind
 - Modernization of Derivatives Act (MODA)
 - Wealth transfer tax loophole closers

2017 Tax Legislation

- Partisan legislation
- Deficits
- Compounds inequities of the existing tax code
- Poor drafting/unworkable policies
- Outlook for technical and other modifications?