



**ACTORS'
EQUITY**
ASSOCIATION 1913

165 West 46th Street
New York, NY 10036
www.actorsequity.org
(212) 869.8530

TAX FAIRNESS TOOLKIT

Supporting Tax Fairness: How to Make Your Voice Heard

The changes that were made to the tax law that impact you the most as an actor or stage manager won't go into effect until the next tax year. That means you still have time to make your voice heard.

WHO TO CALL: Go to <https://www.govtrack.us/> and in the upper left, enter your home address. This will give you the contact information for your House and Senate members.

WHAT TO SAY:

- It is important that we maintain our skilled performing work force of artists all across the country. Equity's talented actors and stage managers are middle-class employees who work in jobs that cannot be outsourced. We are the primary drivers of a nationwide industry that countless Americans have come to rely on for entertainment in their own communities, every day and night.
- Actors and stage managers spend anywhere from 10 to 30 percent of their gross income on business expenses. Until now, we have been able to deduct those expenses. But the new tax bill takes away these deductions that help us level the playing field compared to everyday, full time employees.
- Those expenses include our agent fees, research and continuing education, travel and transportation costs when we audition or work out of town. Itemized deductions help level the playing field for workers like actors who are required to spend a large portion of their income on business expenses.
- This latest tax bill not only doesn't provide the relief for Equity's middle class workers, but by raising costs for thousands of artists, puts our entire industry at risk.