Washington, D.C. - Today, Congresswoman Melissa Bean (IL-8) voted for the *Stealth Tax Relief Act (HR 4096)*
to protect average American families from unreasonable tax hikes. The bill includes a one-year fix of the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) which will spare more than 17 million middle class families from its onerous tax increases.

The alternative minimum tax was created to prevent wealthy individuals from using so many credits, deductions and shelters that they paid no tax. But it now threatens to raise taxes on an increasing number of middle-class taxpayers each year, because it is not indexed to inflation. HR 4096 restores the original intent of the bill and ensures that it doesn't further strain middle class families, many of whom rely on the financial relief of tax credits like those for adoption or higher education.

"The Alternative Minimum Tax was never intended to be a tax on the middle class," Bean said, "Middle class families should not pay higher taxes because they used incentives that were specifically created to help them. Since this Congress has failed to address this problem with a permanent solution, yet another one-year extension is necessary."

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