

From the office of  
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FOR RELEASE  
THURSDAY  
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Congressman John E. Fogarty today introduced in the U. S. House of Representatives a bill providing a deduction for income tax purposes, for expenses of transportation for disabled individuals to and from their work. The bill would also provide an additional exemption of \$600. for a taxpayer or his spouse who is physically or mentally incapable of caring for himself.

In presenting his bill Mr. Fogarty stated, "It appears to me to be pretty well recognized that handicapped individuals have expenses over and above the expenses of people without such disabilities." "I feel very strongly that the government should attempt to equalize these burdens of its citizens by permitting additional tax benefits to an individual who requires greater expenditures in order to earn his living."

"Few of us who are in more fortunate circumstances fully realize the hardships which face these people." Congressman Fogarty stated. He cited the fact that many of them must have constant medical treatment and therapy. Unless someone is at home to care for them, an attendant must be engaged to cook, feed, and care for them. Equipment such as wheelchairs, crutches, braces, artificial limbs and other prosthetic devices must be purchased. It is frequently necessary to rent more expensive apartments either on the ground floor or with ramps and widened doors for wheelchair patients. Drugs and medicines cause a further drain on limited funds.

"Enactment of my bill will better enable these handicapped persons or those supporting them to meet their rising expenses", Fogarty continued. Present exemptions and permissible deductions are simply not sufficient to provide them with a minimum, decent standard of living. These tax savings will make it possible for them to enjoy a little more financial security and possibly a few more of the comforts of life."