

House tax slash delays disappoint Hansen, Symms

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Both Idaho Congressmen, George Hansen and Steve Symms, expressed disappointment Friday that the House refused to consider a broad-base tax cut in the current lame duck session.

Hansen, in a Post-Register telephone interview, said he felt the tax cut should have been placed in effect immediately to give people as early tax relief as possible.

Hansen said he favored the Kemp-Roth Bill, which would have provided for a 10 percent

across-the-board tax cut a year for three years, or 30 percent. He said the tax bill in Congress was acceptable to Ronald Reagan, adding "it would get money back to people's pockets."

"I think it would have been helpful to give the tax bill a run and give people earlier hope that something is being done to get the economy moving.

"I think we probably would have done less than a perfect job but at least it could have been started, then cleaned up and tuned up with a high priority in the next session of Congress.

"I do think it's too bad when Jimmy Carter and his supporters want no tax cut because of their attitude. I challenge their attitude."

Hansen said he cosponsored the Kemp-Roth bill but that he also has similar legislation that calls for 25-30 percent tax cut.

Hansen said he will serve on his old love, the House Agriculture Committee, to which he was recently appointed following the resignation of Symms to give him added seniority. He also will retain membership in the House Banking Committee, thus being one of the few congressmen to serve on two major committees.

Hansen said, however, he will keep in close touch with the Veterans Affairs Committee on which he served and also with the interior committee where efforts are being made for Symms to get appointed.

Symms also expressed disappointment a tax cut was delayed but pointed out it will be one of the first items to be considered in the next Congress to convene next January.