Dear fellow AMT-ISO fighters:

I asked our leaders if they would forward this special message to all of you. Many of you are familiar with my story; it has been published often on the website and in local and national publications. I lost my home and retirement to the AMT and still am being hounded by the IRS for the remainder of the accrued interest and penalties.

Please note the way I addressed you: I refuse to be a victim, but would much rather act as a fighter. Seven years ago, I went to DC to tell my story. I have recently traveled to DC again on behalf of our organization and walked Capitol Hill for two days. I wish each of you could have been there with me, and I tried to represent all of you.

You need to understand that there is a huge difference from now and when we first started. Seven years ago, we couldn't get the time of day from anyone, no one understood what we were talking about and if they did, they dismissed it all as self-inflicted wounds. In October, most of the staffers I met with were not only familiar with the issue, they were decidedly empathetic and willing to help (within the snarls of political boundaries of course) and most of them knew our leaders by name.

While no one is more frustrated than I am about the pace that this "fix" has taken, I am continuing to fight because I think we can win this. I am asking each of you to continue to fight as well. Further, we have a small core of people who have invested countless hours of their time and thousands of their own dollars to lead our fight. You have no idea the number of calls, meetings, etc. that these people are doing on all of our behalf. Some are personally on the hook for our unpaid lobbyist bills.

I am broke, but have pledged a healthy percentage of whatever I get back, and in the meantime I try to send a small amount whenever I can get ahead.

In the spirit of this holiday season, and as one who is definitely in the same boat as each of you, I ask you to:

• Pledge ahead
• Take the time to send whatever you can along now
• Write your senator as the previous alert urged
• Be a fighter, not a victim.

Bless all of you!

Angela Hartley