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Muni Bankers Look to Woo Treasury, Trump Team to Keep Tax Break.

A group of public finance bankers, who have so far largely focused their attention on Congress, are now reaching out to the Trump administration to make their case for keeping state and local government debt tax free.

The Bond Dealers of America plans to meet next month with the Treasury Department's public finance unit and is working to set up sessions with other Trump administration officials, according to Brett Bolton, a spokesperson for the Washington-based lobbying group representing securities dealers and banks.

Local governments, bankers and investors have been on alert since the federal tax break landed on a list of items up for the chopping block as Republicans seek ways to raise money to extend President Donald Trump's 2017 tax cuts. Congressional GOP who returned to Washington Monday will be negotiating a tax bill package this week to deliver those reductions. The muni tax exemption — seen as the underpinning of the public finance market — is among the top 30 federal tax expenditures, according to the Bipartisan Policy Center.

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