Nation's Largest Tax Association Urges End to Shutdown of Internal Revenue Service

The National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP) appeals to House and Senate on behalf of taxpayers and tax preparers.

APPLETON, Wis. (PRWEB) January 24, 2019 -- Late last week, NATP submitted a letter to both the members of the House Committee on Ways & Means as well as members of the Senate Committee on Finance, urging both parties to find a solution to ending the current shutdown of the IRS. The group outlined the total impact this current government shutdown is having on the IRS’ ability to perform its duties to the taxpayer.

With the official opening of tax filing season planned for January 28 and a projected IRS furloughed workforce expected to be at half of its normal capacity, NATP voiced skepticism over the IRS’ ability to issue refunds promptly and to provide normal services to assist taxpayers.

“The uncertainty surrounding this tax season is at unprecedented levels,” explained NATP Executive Director, Scott Artman, CPA. “As an organization that supports thousands of tax professionals who in turn assist millions of taxpayers, we feel it is imperative that we draw attention to what main street America will be faced with if a conclusion to the shutdown doesn’t occur soon.”

The letter detailed specific challenges for the taxpayers, like facing penalties and interest from unpaid tax bills due to an inability to resolve their issues because there are no IRS resources available. Until a resolution is found, Taxpayer Assistance Centers will remain closed, leaving no face-to-face option for filing assistance. In addition, the recent Tax Cuts and Jobs Act leaves a lot of unanswered questions with nowhere to go for answers.

NATP has heard many concerns from its membership about how the shutdown is going to affect their ability to serve their clients. Preparers are still waiting on final guidance, clarifications and updated forms that are the reality created through the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. At the current IRS staffing levels, preparers are inevitably looking at longer backlogs in exam and appeals, which prolongs resolution of tax disputes for taxpayers.

“We understand the challenge the IRS will face once the shutdown ends,” notes Artman. “That is why we are urging Congress to understand the ongoing impact of understaffing during tax season and swiftly return the IRS to its pre-shutdown capacity.”

About NATP

NATP is the largest association dedicated to equipping tax professionals with the resources, connections and education they need to provide the highest level of service to their clients. NATP is comprised of over 22,000 leading tax professionals who believe in a superior standard of ethics and exemplify professional excellence. Members rely on NATP to deliver professional connections, content expertise and advocacy that provides them with the support they need to best serve their clients. The organization welcomes all tax professionals in their quest to continually meet the needs of the public, no matter where they are in their careers.
If you have any questions regarding information in these press releases please contact the company listed in the press release. Our complete disclaimer appears here - PRWeb ebooks - Another online visibility tool from PRWeb.