Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

September 13, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House H-232, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal Chairman, Ways and Means 372 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Janet Yellen Secretary, US Department of Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20220

Charles P. Rettig Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service 1111 Constitution Avenue NW Washington, DC 20224

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Chairman Neal, Secretary Yellen, and Commissioner Rettig:

We are concerned about a recent IRS data collection proposal to increase tax information reporting requirements on financial institutions, which we do not believe are necessary or helpful toward closing the "tax gap."

The recent spending proposal to include new tax information reporting requirements for financial institutions would not only impose significant compliance costs on our banks, credit unions, and related financial institutions that have served as the backbone of this economy these past 18 months, but also infringe on the privacy of millions of Americans.

Specifically, such a proposal would require financial institutions and other financial services providers report information about the outflows and inflows on accounts over \$600 to the IRS every year. However, financial institutions currently report a tremendous amount of data to the IRS, and no evidence has shown that the proposed requirements would substantially aid the IRS's efforts to close the tax gap beyond the information already at the IRS's disposal.

Not only would such an overly comprehensive IRS database require significant resources to build, maintain, and protect, but it would make the personal, financial data of millions of Americans vulnerable to attack. Considering the IRS experiences 1.4 billion cyberattacks annually and has experienced multiple data breaches, we should not give this agency additional sensitive data to manage.

Additionally, privacy is one of the primary reasons individuals choose not to open bank accounts. This overreaching proposal, if adopted, would further exacerbate banked/unbanked/underbanked divides.

We ask you to address our concerns as we work to craft a regulatory environment focused on protecting Americans and our financial system, not one focused on raising revenue at the expense of our taxpayers and financial institutions.

Sincerely,

Tom Emmer Member of Congress

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Ann Wagner Member of Congress

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Jeff Duncan Member of Congress

Ralph Norman Member of Congress

Blaine Luetkemeyer Member of Congress

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