

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 23, 2020

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

Dear Commissioner Rettig,

I write to request the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) extend its deadlines to allow families with dependents receive the full amount of their Economic Impact Payment. It is imperative that these families have the complete payments that the CARES Act intended to help alleviate some of the financial burdens this unprecedented crisis has born on their lives.

According to recent reporting, approximately one million children may be deprived of the \$500 payment that was intended to assist families in the CARES Act if they fail to complete an online form by noon yesterday, April 22, 2020.^[1] Just three days ago the IRS sent out a “special alert” notifying the public of this impending deadline, which I am confident too many households have not been able to meet.^[2] This notice required Social Security recipients and retirees caring for children to complete an online form, under a seemingly unreasonable deadline and with varying degrees of technical difficulties, which may well be a hardship for families during this pandemic. Many of these families have not historically been required to complete a tax filing. If they missed this deadline they will be forced to wait until next year to receive this payment. With the administrative delays associated with processing ordinary payments, this will be a harsh penalty for these citizens. The average cost of raising a child in this country is \$245,000^[3], making the existing \$500 payment a mere drop in the bucket. If we fail to get this lifeline to these children, we will be depriving them of the food and sustenance they need to make it through this crisis.

This cohort of constituents disproportionately represent those most vulnerable to the coronavirus and, consistent with available guidance and best practices, every effort should be made to assist

^[1] <https://www.cbpp.org/blog/irs-deadlines-threaten-stimulus-payments-for-1-million-dependents>

^[2] <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/ssa-rrb-recipients-with-eligible-children-need-to-act-by-wednesday-to-quickly-add-money-to-their-automatic-economic-impact-payment-irs-asks-for-help-in-the-plus-500-push>

^[3] https://www.morganstanley.com/articles/little-geniuses-big-dreams?cid=ppc-71700000045240996:700000001822702:58700004654357395:p39240799739&msclkid=5350404f6d6f1150cc861eef03cc11a3&gclid=CLalqlS4_OgCFcXktQod_fYN9A&gclidsrc=ds

these families. I urge IRS to extend these deadlines to better support these families in these perilous times as our country works to slow the spread of this deadly virus.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

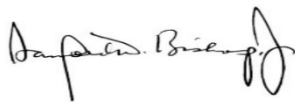
Sincerely,



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Michael Kelly
Member of Congress



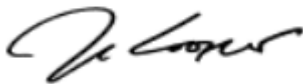
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



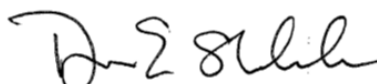
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



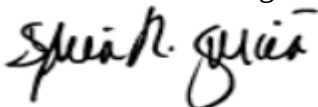
Jim Cooper
Member of Congress



Donna E. Shalala
Member of Congress



Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



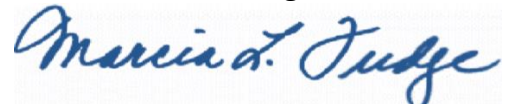
Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Member of Congress



Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Jennifer Wexton
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Elaine G. Luria
Member of Congress



Ami Bera
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



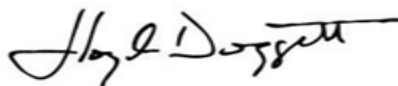
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



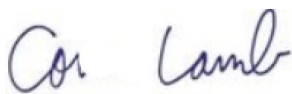
Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



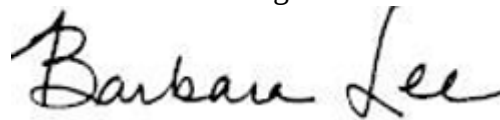
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Conor Lamb
Member of Congress



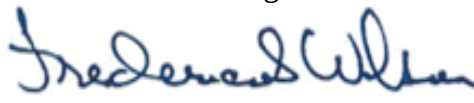
Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



Frederica Wilson
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Abigail Spanberger
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Colin Allred
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress



Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Gregorio Camacho Kilili Sablan
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



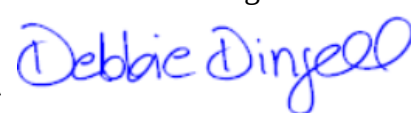
Michael Bost
Member of Congress



Marc Veasey
Member of Congress



Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

/s/
Lori Trahan
Member of Congress

/s/
Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

/s/
Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

/s/
Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress