

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 26, 2021

The Honorable Charles Rettig
Commissioner
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224

Dear Commissioner Rettig:

I write to urge the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to address several issues, at least one of which has been encountered by more than one hundred Granite Staters who have contacted my office because they did not receive the full Economic Impact Payments and tax refunds for which they are eligible. I strongly support President Biden's recent Executive Order directing the Treasury Department to explore ways to quickly deliver economic relief to the roughly 8 million households still waiting for their Economic Impact Payments, and thank the IRS for prioritizing relief for struggling individuals and families as the agency prepares for the upcoming filing season.

At the end of 2020, Congress passed and the President signed a bipartisan legislative package that provided direct economic support to individuals and families, including a second round of Economic Impact Payments of \$600 per eligible adult and per eligible child. I am concerned, however, about several problems faced by my constituents in attempting to access their full Economic Impact Payments.

First, I have heard from numerous Social Security beneficiaries in New Hampshire who did not automatically receive their Economic Impact Payments. The year-end relief package contained my bipartisan legislation, the *Automatic Cash Assistance Act*, which was intended to ensure that Social Security beneficiaries would automatically receive these Economic Impact Payments without having to file tax returns. I urge the IRS to promptly take steps to ensure that all Social Security beneficiaries receive their Economic Impact Payments automatically.

Second, many constituents who filed tax returns jointly with their spouses have contacted my office to report that they received \$600 payments, rather than the \$1,200 payments for which they appear to be eligible. It is crucial that IRS quickly identify and facilitate the adjustment of any incorrect Economic Impact Payments so that struggling families receive the full support for which they are eligible.

Lastly, the IRS has not processed many 2019 paper tax returns filed by New Hampshire taxpayers. In addition to significantly delaying tax refunds, this tax return processing delay has

resulted in delayed Economic Impact Payments for these constituents, who must now claim their payments as a tax credit on their 2020 tax returns. I urge the IRS to focus resources on processing these returns and to rapidly process 2020 tax returns filed by individuals who have not yet received their Economic Impact payments.

As Congress considers additional economic relief and direct support for individuals and families, I appreciate the hard work of you and your agency in delivering the latest round of Economic Impact Payments and preparing for the upcoming filing season.

With every good wish,



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator