## <sup>111TH CONGRESS</sup> 2D SESSION H.R.5047

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide taxpayer protection and assistance, and for other purposes.

#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 15, 2010

Mr. BECERRA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

### A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide taxpayer protection and assistance, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

#### **3** SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; ETC.

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 "Taxpayer Bill of Rights Act of 2010".

6 (b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as other-7 wise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amend-8 ment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment 9 to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference

- 1 shall be considered to be made to a section or other provi-
- 2 sion of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
- 3 (c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
- 4 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; etc.

#### TITLE I—TAXPAYER RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Sec. 101. Statement of taxpayer rights and obligations.

#### TITLE II—PREPARATION OF TAX RETURNS

- Sec. 201. Programs for the benefit of low-income taxpayers.
- Sec. 202. Regulation of Federal income tax return preparers.
- Sec. 203. Refund delivery products.
- Sec. 204. Preparer penalties with respect to preparation of returns and other submissions.
- Sec. 205. Clarification of enrolled agent credentials.

#### TITLE III—IMPROVING TAXPAYER SERVICES

- Sec. 301. Individualized lien determination required before filing notice of lien.
- Sec. 302. Ban on audit insurance.
- Sec. 303. Public awareness.
- Sec. 304. Clarification of taxpayer assistance order authority.
- Sec. 305. Taxpayer advocate directives.
- Sec. 306. Improved services for taxpayers.
- Sec. 307. Taxpayer access to financial institutions.
- Sec. 308. Additional studies.

### 5 TITLE I—TAXPAYER RIGHTS AND 6 OBLIGATIONS

#### 7 SEC. 101. STATEMENT OF TAXPAYER RIGHTS AND OBLIGA-

- 8 TIONS.
- 9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 (relating to miscella-
- 10 neous provisions) is amended by adding at the end the
- 11 following new section:

3 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the National Taxpaver Advocate, shall publish a sum-4 5 mary statement of rights and obligations arising under this title. Such statement shall provide citations to the 6 7 main provisions of this title which provide for the right 8 or obligation (as the case may be). This statement of 9 rights and obligations does not create or confer any rights or obligations not otherwise provided for under this title. 10 11 "(b) STATEMENT OF RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS.— The statement of rights and obligations is as follows: 12 "(1) TAXPAYER RIGHTS.— 13 "(A) Right to be informed (including ade-14 15 quate legal and procedural guidance and infor-16 mation about taxpayer rights). "(B) Right to be assisted. 17 18 "(C) Right to be heard. "(D) Right to pay no more than the cor-19 20 rect amount of tax. 21 "(E) Right of appeal (administrative and 22 judicial). 23 "(F) Right to certainty (including guid-24 ance, periods of limitation, no second exam, and 25 closing agreements).

1	"(G) Right to privacy (including due proc-
2	ess considerations, least intrusive enforcement
3	action, and search and seizure protections).
4	"(H) Right to confidentiality.
5	"(I) Right to appoint a representative in
6	matters before the Internal Revenue Service.
7	"(J) Right to fair and just tax system
8	(offer in compromise, abatement, assistance
9	from the Office of the Taxpayer Advocate under
10	section 7803(c), apology, and other compensa-
11	tion payments).
12	"(2) TAXPAYER OBLIGATIONS.—
13	"(A) Obligation to be honest.
14	"(B) Obligation to be cooperative.
15	"(C) Obligation to provide accurate infor-
16	mation and documents on time.
17	"(D) Obligation to keep records.
18	"(E) Obligation to pay taxes on time.".
19	(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
20	for chapter 77 is amended by adding at the end the fol-
21	lowing new item:
	"Sec. 7529. Statement of taxpayer rights and obligations.".
22	(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
23	this section shall take effect 180 days after the date of
24	the enactment of this Act.

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# TITLE II—PREPARATION OF TAX RETURNS

3 SEC. 201. PROGRAMS FOR THE BENEFIT OF LOW-INCOME 4 TAXPAYERS.

5 (a) VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PLUS.—
6 Chapter 77 (relating to miscellaneous provisions) is
7 amended by inserting after section 7526 the following new
8 section:

#### 9 "SEC. 7526A. VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PLUS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, subject to
the availability of appropriated funds, make grants to provide matching funds for the development, expansion, or
continuation of qualified return preparation programs.

14 "(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—
15 "(1) QUALIFIED RETURN PREPARATION PRO16 GRAM.—

17 "(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified
18 return preparation program' means a pro19 gram—

20 "(i) which does not charge taxpayers21 for its return preparation services,

22 "(ii) which operates programs which
23 assist low-income taxpayers, including
24 those programs that serve taxpayers for
25 whom English is a second language, in

preparing and filing their Federal income 1 2 tax returns, including schedules reporting 3 sole proprietorship or farm income, and 4 "(iii) in which all of the volunteers who assist in the preparation of Federal 5 6 income tax returns meet the training re-7 quirements prescribed by the Secretary. "(B) Assistance to low-income tax-8 9 PAYERS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), a 10 program is treated as assisting low-income tax-11 payers if at least 90 percent of the taxpayers 12 assisted by the program have incomes which do 13 not exceed 250 percent of the poverty level, as 14 determined in accordance with criteria estab-15 lished by the Director of the Office of Manage-16 ment and Budget. 17 (2)PROGRAM.—The term 'program' in-18 cludes-"(A) a program at an institution of higher 19

21 "(i) is described in section 102 (other
22 than subsection (a)(1)(C) thereof) of the
23 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
24 1088), as in effect on the date of the en25 actment of this section, and which has not

education which—

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1	been disqualified from participating in a
2	program under title IV of such Act, and
3	"(ii) satisfies the requirements of
4	paragraph (1) through student assistance
5	of taxpayers in return preparation and fil-
6	ing;
7	"(B) an organization described in section
8	501(c) and exempt from tax under section
9	501(a) which satisfies the requirements of para-
10	graph $(1);$
11	"(C) a regional, State or local coalition
12	(with one lead organization, which meets the
13	eligibility requirements, acting as the applicant
14	organization);
15	"(D) a county or municipal government
16	agency;
17	"(E) an Indian tribe, as defined in section
18	4(12) of the Native American Housing Assist-
19	ance and Self-Determination Act of $1996$ (25
20	U.S.C. 4103(12)), and includes any tribally
21	designated housing entity (as defined in section
22	4(21) of such Act (25 U.S.C. $4103(21)$ ), tribal
23	subsidiary, subdivision, or other wholly owned
24	tribal entity;
25	"(F) a section $501(c)(5)$ organization;

1	"(G) a State government agency if no
2	other eligible organization is available to assist
3	the targeted population or community;
4	"(H) a Cooperative Extension Service of-
5	fice if no other eligible organization is available
6	to assist the targeted population or community;
7	and
8	"(I) a nonprofit Community Development
9	Financial Institution (CDFI) and federally- and
10	State-chartered credit union that qualifies for a
11	tax exemption under sections $501(c)(1)$ and
12	501(c)(14), respectively.
13	"(c) Special Rules and Limitations.—
14	"(1) Aggregate limitation.—Unless other-
15	wise provided by specific appropriation, the Sec-
16	retary shall not allocate more than \$35,000,000 per
17	year (exclusive of costs of administering the pro-
18	gram) to grants under this section.
19	"(2) USE OF GRANTS FOR OVERHEAD EX-
20	PENSES PROHIBITED.—No grant made under this
21	section may be used for overhead expenses that are
22	not directly related to any program or that are in-
23	curred by any institution sponsoring such program.
24	"(3) Other applicable rules.—Rules simi-
25	lar to the rules under paragraphs (2) through (6) of

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1	section 7526(c) shall apply with respect to the
2	awarding of grants to qualified return preparation
3	programs.
4	"(4) PROMOTION OF PROGRAMS.—The Sec-
5	retary is authorized to promote the benefits of and
6	encourage the use of qualified VITA Plus through
7	the use of mass communications, referrals, and other
8	means.".
9	(b) Low-Income Taxpayer Clinics.—
10	(1) INCREASE IN AUTHORIZED GRANTS.—Para-
11	graph (1) of section 7526(c) (relating to aggregate
12	limitation) is amended by striking "\$6,000,000" and
13	inserting ''\$20,000,000''.
14	(2) Use of grants for overhead expenses
15	PROHIBITED.—
16	(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 7526(c) (relat-
17	ing to special rules and limitations) is amended
18	by adding at the end the following new para-
19	graph:
20	"(6) USE OF GRANTS FOR OVERHEAD EX-
21	PENSES PROHIBITED.—No grant made under this
22	section may be used for the overhead expenses that
23	are not directly related to the clinic or that are of
24	any institution sponsoring such clinic.".

1	(B) Conforming Amendments.—Section
2	7526(c)(5) is amended—
3	(i) by inserting "qualified" before
4	"low-income", and
5	(ii) by striking the last sentence.
6	(3) Promotion of clinics.—Subsection (c) of
7	section 7526 (relating to special rules and limita-
8	tions), as amended by paragraph (2), is amended by
9	adding at the end the following new paragraph:
10	"(7) Promotion of Clinics.—The Secretary
11	is authorized to promote the benefits of and encour-
12	age the use of qualified low-income taxpayer clinics
13	through the use of mass communications, referrals,
14	and other means.".
15	(4) IRS referrals to clinics.—Subsection
16	(c) of section 7526 (relating to special rules and lim-
17	itations), as amended by the preceding provisions of
18	this subsection, is amended by adding at the end the
19	following new paragraph:
20	"(8) IRS REFERRALS.—The Secretary may
21	refer taxpayers to qualified low-income taxpayer clin-
22	ics receiving funding under this section.".
23	(5) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF CLINICS IN
24	NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY.—Subsection (a) of section
25	6212 (relating to general rule for notice of defi-

ciency) is amended by inserting ", as well as notice
 regarding the availability of low-income taxpayer
 clinics and information about how to contact them"
 before the period at the end.

5 (6) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF CLINICS IN 6 NOTICE OF HEARING UPON FILING OF NOTICE OF 7 LIEN.—Subsection (a) of section 6320 (relating to 8 requirement of notice) is amended by adding at the 9 end the following new sentence: "Such notice shall 10 include a notice to the taxpayer of the availability of 11 low-income taxpayer clinics and information about 12 how to contact them.".

(7) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF CLINICS IN
NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY OF HEARING BEFORE
LEVY.—Paragraph (3) of section 6330(a) is amended by adding at the end the following flush sentence:
"Such notice shall include a notice to the taxpayer
of the availability of low-income taxpayer clinics and
information about how to contact them.".

20 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
21 for chapter 77 is amended by inserting after the item re22 lating to section 7526 the following new item:

"Sec. 7526A. Volunteer income tax assistance plus.".

23 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
24 this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment
25 of this Act.

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3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 330(a)(1) of title 31,
4 United States Code, is amended by inserting "(including
5 tax return preparers of Federal tax returns, documents,
6 and other submissions)" after "representatives".

7 (b) PROMULGATION OF REGULATIONS.—The Sec-8 retary of the Treasury shall prescribe regulations under 9 section 330 of title 31, United States Code, to regulate 10 any tax return preparers not otherwise regulated by the 11 Secretary.

12 (c) REQUIREMENTS.—Such regulations shall provide13 guidance on the following:

14 (1) EXAMINATION.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—In promulgating the
16 regulations under paragraph (1), the Secretary
17 shall approve and oversee eligibility examina18 tions.

(B) Two EXAMINATIONS.—One such examination shall be designed to test technical
knowledge and competency to prepare individual returns, and the other examination shall
be designed to test technical knowledge and
competency to prepare business income tax returns.

1 (C) EITC.—The examination relating to 2 individual returns shall test knowledge and competency regarding properly claiming the 3 earned income tax credit under section 32 of 4 5 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. 6 (D) ETHICS.—Both examinations under 7 subparagraph (B) shall test knowledge regard-8 ing such ethical standards for the preparation 9 of such returns as determined appropriate by 10 the Secretary. 11 (E) GRANDFATHER.—The Secretary is au-12 thorized to accept an individual as meeting the 13 eligibility examination requirement of this sec-14 tion if, in lieu of the eligibility examination 15 under this section, the individual passed a State 16 licensing or State registration program eligi-17 bility examination that the Secretary deter-18 mines is comparable to either of the eligibility 19 examinations described in subparagraph (B) if 20 such exam is administered within 5 years after 21 the date of the issuance of the regulations

22 under this section.

23 (2) SUITABILITY STANDARDS.—The Secretary
24 shall provide suitability standards for practicing as
25 a tax return preparer, including tax compliance with

the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1 2 1986.

3 (3) CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY.—

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(A) IN GENERAL.—The regulations under paragraph (1) shall require a renewal of eligi-6 bility every 3 years and shall set forth the manner in which a tax return preparer must renew 8 such eligibility.

9  $(\mathbf{B})$ CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDU-10 CATION REQUIREMENTS.—As part of the re-11 newal of eligibility, such regulations shall re-12 quire that each such tax return preparer show 13 evidence of completion of such continuing edu-14 cation or testing requirements as specified by 15 the Secretary.

16 (C) NONMONETARY SANCTIONS.—

17 (i) The regulations under this section 18 shall provide for the denial, suspension or 19 termination of such eligibility in the event 20 of any failure to comply with the require-21 ments promulgated hereunder.

22 (ii) Under such regulations, the Sec-23 retary shall establish procedures for the 24 appeal of any determination under this 25 paragraph.

(d) PENALTY FOR UNAUTHORIZED PREPARATION OF
 RETURNS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—In promulgating the regula-4 tions pursuant to subsection (b), the Secretary shall 5 impose a penalty of \$1,000 for each Federal tax re-6 turn, document, or other submission prepared by a 7 tax return preparer who is not in compliance with 8 the regulations promulgated under this section or 9 who is suspended or disbarred from practice before 10 the Department of the Treasury under such regula-11 tions. Such penalty shall be in addition to any other 12 penalty which may be imposed.

13 (2) EXCEPTION.—No penalty may be imposed
14 under paragraph (1) with respect to any failure if it
15 is shown that such failure is due to reasonable
16 cause.

17 (e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

(1) TAX RETURN PREPARER.—The term "tax
return preparer" has the meaning given by section
7701(a)(36) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,
and includes any person requiring the purchase of
services, a financial product or goods in lieu of or in
addition to direct monetary payment.

(2) SECRETARY.—The terms "Secretary of the
 Treasury" and "Secretary" mean the Secretary of
 the Treasury or the delegate of the Secretary.

4 (f) PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.—The Secretary
5 shall conduct a public information and consumer edu6 cation campaign, utilizing paid advertising—

7 (1) to encourage taxpayers to use for Federal
8 tax matters only professionals who establish their
9 competency under the regulations promulgated
10 under section 330 of title 31, United States Code,
11 and

(2) to inform the public of the requirements
that any compensated preparer of tax returns, documents, and submissions subject to the requirements
under the regulations promulgated under such section must sign the return, document, or submission
prepared for a fee and display notice of such preparer's compliance under such regulations.

19 (g) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by
21 this section shall take effect on the date of the en22 actment of the Act.

23 (2) REGULATIONS.—The regulations required
24 by section 330(d) of title 31, United States Code,

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<ul> <li>2 date of the enactment of this Act.</li> <li>3 (3) FULL IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secret</li> <li>4 taking into consideration the complexity and m</li> <li>5 nitude of the requirements set forth under this .</li> <li>6 may delay full implementation of the regulation</li> <li>7 promulgated herein not later than the fifth final</li> </ul>	nag- Act,
<ul> <li>4 taking into consideration the complexity and m</li> <li>5 nitude of the requirements set forth under this .</li> <li>6 may delay full implementation of the regulation</li> </ul>	nag- Act,
<ul> <li>nitude of the requirements set forth under this .</li> <li>may delay full implementation of the regulation</li> </ul>	Act,
6 may delay full implementation of the regulation	,
7 promulgated herein not later than the fifth fi	ions
	ling
8 season after the enactment of this Act.	
9 SEC. 203. REFUND DELIVERY PRODUCTS.	
10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 (relating to misce	ella-
11 neous provisions), as amended by section 101, is amen	ded
12 by adding at the end the following new section:	
13 "SEC. 7530. REFUND DELIVERY PRODUCTS.	
14 "(a) REGISTRATION.—	
15 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall by a	reg-
16 ulation require each refund delivery prod	luct
17 facilitator to register annually with the Secretary.	,
18 "(2) REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.—A	reg-
19 istration shall under paragraph (1) shall include–	_
20 "(A) the name, address, and TIN of	the
21 refund delivery product facilitator, and	
22 "(B) the fee schedule of the facilitator	for
the year.	
24 "(3) DISPLAY OF REGISTRATION CERT	IFI-

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1	graph (1) shall be displayed in the facility of the re-
2	fund delivery product facilitator in the manner re-
3	quired by the Secretary.
4	"(b) DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS.—
5	"(1) IN GENERAL.—Each refund delivery prod-
6	uct facilitator registered with the Secretary shall be
7	subject to the requirements of paragraphs $(2)$
8	through (5).
9	"(2) TAXPAYER EDUCATION.—The require-
10	ments of this paragraph are that the refund delivery
11	product facilitator makes available to consumers an
12	informational pamphlet that—
13	"(A) sets forth options available for receiv-
14	ing tax refunds, presented from least expensive
15	to most expensive, and
16	"(B) discusses short-term credit alter-
17	natives to utilizing refund delivery products.
18	"(3) NATURE OF THE TRANSACTION.—The re-
19	quirements of this paragraph are that, at the time
20	of application for the refund delivery product, the re-
21	fund delivery product facilitator specifically state in
22	writing—
23	"(A) in the case of a refund delivery prod-
24	uct which is a refund loan—

1	"(i) that the applicant is applying for
2	a loan based on the applicant's anticipated
3	income tax refund,
4	"(ii) the expected time within which
5	the loan will be paid to the applicant if
6	such loan is approved, and
7	"(iii) that there is no guarantee that
8	a refund will be paid in full or received
9	within a specified time period, and that the
10	applicant is responsible for the repayment
11	of the loan even if the refund is not paid
12	in full or has been delayed,
13	"(B) the time within which income tax re-
14	funds are typically paid based upon the dif-
15	ferent filing options available to the applicant,
16	and
17	"(C) that the applicant may file an elec-
18	tronic return without applying for a refund de-
19	livery product and the fee for filing such an
20	electronic return.
21	"(4) FEES, INTEREST AND AMOUNTS RE-
22	CEIVED.—The requirements of this paragraph are
23	that, at the time of application for the refund deliv-
24	ery product, the refund delivery product facilitator
25	discloses to the applicant all amounts to be received

1	in connection with a refund delivery product. Such
2	disclosure shall include—
3	"(A) a copy of the fee schedule of the re-
4	fund delivery product facilitator,
5	"(B) in the case of a refund delivery prod-
6	uct which is a refund loan—
7	"(i) the typical fees and interest rates
8	(using annual percentage rates as defined
9	by section 107 of the Truth in Lending
10	Act (15 U.S.C. 1606)) for several typical
11	amounts of such loans and of other types
12	of consumer credit, and
13	"(ii) that the loan may have substan-
14	tial fees and interest charges that may ex-
15	ceed those of other sources of credit, and
16	the applicant should carefully consider—
17	"(I) whether such a loan is ap-
18	propriate for the applicant, and
19	"(II) other sources of credit,
20	"(C) typical fees and interest charges if a
21	refund is not paid or delayed,
22	"(D) the amount of a fee (if any) that will
23	be charged if the refund delivery product is not
24	approved, and

1 "(E) administrative costs and any other 2 amounts.

3 "(5) OTHER INFORMATION.—The requirements
4 of this paragraph are that the refund delivery prod5 uct facilitator discloses any other information re6 quired to be disclosed by the Secretary.

7 "(6) DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENT.—A disclosure 8 under any of the preceding paragraphs of this sub-9 section shall not be treated as meeting the require-10 ments of the respective paragraph unless the disclo-11 sure is written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average consumer of refund delivery 12 13 products and provides sufficient information (as de-14 termined in accordance with regulations prescribed 15 by the Secretary) to allow the consumer to under-16 stand such options and credit alternatives.

17 "(c) PENALTY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed a
penalty on any refund delivery product facilitator
who fails to register with the Secretary pursuant to
subsection (a) or fails to meet a disclosure requirement under subsection (b).

23 "(2) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—The amount of
24 the penalty imposed by paragraph (1) shall be the
25 greater of—

"(A) **\$1,000**, and

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2 "(B) three times the amount of the refund
3 loan, if applicable, and refund delivery product
4 facilitator-determined fees charged with respect
5 to each refund delivery product provided by the
6 refund delivery product facilitator during the
7 period in which the failure described in para8 graph (1) occurred.

9 "(3) WAIVER BY SECRETARY.—In the case of a 10 failure which is due to reasonable cause and not to 11 willful neglect, the Secretary may waive part or all 12 of the penalty imposed by paragraph (1) to the ex-13 tent that the payment of such penalty would be ex-14 cessive or otherwise inequitable relative to the failure 15 involved.

16 "(d) CONDUCT.—

17 "(1) RULES OF CONDUCT.—The Secretary shall
18 prescribe rules of conduct for refund delivery prod19 uct facilitators which are similar to the rules appli20 cable to federally authorized tax practitioners (as de21 fined by section 7525(a)(3)(A)) under part 10 of
22 title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

23 "(2) LIMITATION ON APPROVAL AS REFUND DE24 LIVERY PRODUCT FACILITATOR.—For such period as
25 the Secretary (in his discretion) determines reason-

able, the Secretary may not register any person as
a refund delivery product facilitator under subsection (a) who the Secretary determines has engaged in any conduct that would warrant disciplinary action under the rules of conduct prescribed
under paragraph (1) or under part 10 of title 31,
Code of Federal Regulations.

8 "(e) Other Limitations Relating to Refund 9 DELIVERY PRODUCTS.—In any case in which a taxpayer 10 has consented to the release of the taxpayer's refund indicator to a refund delivery product facilitator, the Secretary 11 may only provide information related to the refund indi-12 13 cator to a refund delivery product facilitator who is registered under subsection (a). For purposes of the pre-14 15 ceding sentence, the term 'refund indicator' means a notification provided through a tax return's acknowledgement 16 17 file regarding whether a refund will be paid. The Secretary may issue a refund indicator only after the Secretary de-18 termines that the taxpayer's refund would not be pre-19 20 vented by any provision of this title, including any provi-21 sion relating to refund offset to repay debts for delinquent 22 Federal or State taxes, student loans, child support, or 23 other Federal agency debt, whether the taxpayer is claim-24 ing ineligible children for purposes of certain tax benefits,

and whether the refund will be held pending a fraud inves tigation.

"(f) Definitions.—For purposes of this section—
"(1) REFUND DELIVERY PRODUCT
FACILITATOR.—
"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'refund de-
livery product facilitator' includes any electronic
filing service provider who—
"(i) solicits for, processes, receives, or
accepts delivery of an application for a re-
fund delivery product, or
"(ii) facilitates the making of a refund
delivery product in any other manner.
"(B) ELECTRONIC FILING SERVICE PRO-
VIDER.—The term 'electronic filing service pro-
vider' includes any person who is an electronic
return originator, intermediate service provider,
or transmitter.
"(C) Electronic return originator.—
The term 'electronic return originator' includes
a person who originates the electronic submis-
sion of income tax returns for another person.
"(D) INTERMEDIATE SERVICE PRO-
VIDER.—The term 'intermediate service pro-
vider' includes a person who assists with proc-

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1	essing return information between an electronic
2	return originator (or the taxpayer in the case of
3	online filing) and a transmitter.
4	"(E) TRANSMITTER.—The term 'trans-
5	mitter' includes a person who sends the elec-
6	tronic return data directly to the Internal Rev-
7	enue Service.
8	"(2) Refund delivery product.—The term
9	'refund delivery product' includes a refund loan and
10	any other product sold to a taxpayer for a fee or any
11	other thing of value for the purpose of receiving the
12	taxpayer's anticipated federal tax refund.
13	"(3) REFUND LOAN.—The term 'refund loan'
14	includes any loan of money or any other thing of
15	value to a taxpayer in connection with the taxpayer's
16	anticipated receipt of a Federal tax refund. Such
17	term includes a loan secured by the tax refund or an
18	arrangement to repay a loan from the tax refund.
19	"(g) Regulations.—
20	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may pre-
21	scribe such regulations as necessary to carry out this
22	subchapter.
23	"(2) BURDEN OF REGISTRATION.—In promul-
24	gating such regulations, the Secretary shall minimize
25	the burden and cost on the registrant.".

(b) PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.—The Secretary
 of the Treasury shall conduct a public information and
 consumer education campaign, utilizing paid advertising,
 to educate the public on making sound financial decisions
 with respect to refund delivery products (as defined by sec tion 7530 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), includ ing—

8 (1) the need to compare the rates and fees of
9 refund loans with the rates and fees of conventional
10 loans,

(2) the need to compare the amount of money
received under a refund delivery product after taking
into consideration such costs and fees with the total
amount of the refund, and

15 (3) where and how taxpayers may lodge com16 plaints concerning refund delivery product
17 facilitators.

18 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
19 for chapter 77 is amended by adding at the end the fol20 lowing new item:

"Sec. 7530. Refund delivery products.".

21 (d) Effective Dates.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by
this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of the Act.

1	(2) Regulations.—The regulations required
2	by section 7530(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of
3	1986 shall be prescribed not later than 2 years after
4	the date of the enactment of this Act.
5	(3) Full implementation.—The Secretary of
6	the Treasury, taking into consideration the com-
7	plexity and magnitude of the requirements set forth
8	under this Act, may delay full implementation of the
9	regulations promulgated under such section not later
10	than 5 years after the enactment of this Act.
11	SEC. 204. PREPARER PENALTIES WITH RESPECT TO PREPA-
12	RATION OF RETURNS AND OTHER SUBMIS-
10	CLONG
13	SIONS.
13 14	(a) Inclusion of Other Submissions in Penalty
14	(a) Inclusion of Other Submissions in Penalty
14 15	(a) Inclusion of Other Submissions in Penalty Provisions.—
14 15 16	<ul> <li>(a) Inclusion of Other Submissions in Penalty</li> <li>Provisions.—</li> <li>(1) Understatement of Taxpayer's Liabil-</li> </ul>
14 15 16 17	<ul> <li>(a) Inclusion of Other Submissions in Penalty</li> <li>Provisions.— <ul> <li>(1) Understatement of Taxpayer's Liabil-</li> <li>ITY.—</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
14 15 16 17 18	<ul> <li>(a) INCLUSION OF OTHER SUBMISSIONS IN PENALTY</li> <li>PROVISIONS.— <ul> <li>(1) UNDERSTATEMENT OF TAXPAYER'S LIABILITY.—</li> <li>(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 6694 (relating</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
14 15 16 17 18 19	<ul> <li>(a) INCLUSION OF OTHER SUBMISSIONS IN PENALTY</li> <li>PROVISIONS.— <ul> <li>(1) UNDERSTATEMENT OF TAXPAYER'S LIABILITY.—</li> <li>(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 6694 (relating to understatement of taxpayer's liability by tax</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	<ul> <li>(a) INCLUSION OF OTHER SUBMISSIONS IN PENALTY</li> <li>PROVISIONS.— <ul> <li>(1) UNDERSTATEMENT OF TAXPAYER'S LIABILITY.—</li> <li>(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 6694 (relating to understatement of taxpayer's liability by tax return preparer) is amended by striking "return</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ol> <li>14</li> <li>15</li> <li>16</li> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> <li>20</li> <li>21</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>(a) INCLUSION OF OTHER SUBMISSIONS IN PENALTY</li> <li>PROVISIONS.— <ul> <li>(1) UNDERSTATEMENT OF TAXPAYER'S LIABIL-</li> <li>ITY.— <ul> <li>(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 6694 (relating to understatement of taxpayer's liability by tax return preparer) is amended by striking "return or claim of refund" each place it appears and</li> </ul> </li> </ul></li></ul>
<ol> <li>14</li> <li>15</li> <li>16</li> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> <li>20</li> <li>21</li> <li>22</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>(a) INCLUSION OF OTHER SUBMISSIONS IN PENALTY</li> <li>PROVISIONS.— <ul> <li>(1) UNDERSTATEMENT OF TAXPAYER'S LIABILITY.—</li> <li>(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 6694 (relating to understatement of taxpayer's liability by tax return preparer) is amended by striking "return or claim of refund" each place it appears and inserting "return, claim of refund, or other sub-</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

1	ed by striking "return or claim" each place it
2	appears and inserting "return, claim, or other
3	submission".
4	(2) Other assessable penalties.—
5	(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 6695 (relating
6	to other assessable penalties with respect to the
7	preparation of tax returns for other persons) is
8	amended by striking "return or claim of re-
9	fund" each place it appears and inserting "re-
10	turn, claim of refund, or other submission".
11	(B) Conforming Amendments.—Section
12	6695, as amended by paragraph (1), is amend-
13	ed by striking "return or claim" each place it
14	appears and inserting "return, claim, or other
15	submission".
16	(b) INCREASE IN CERTAIN OTHER ASSESSABLE PEN-
17	ALTY AMOUNTS.—
18	(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsections (a), (b), and (c)
19	of section 6695 (relating to other assessable pen-
20	alties with respect to the preparation of income tax
21	returns for other persons) are each amended by
22	striking "\$50" and inserting "\$1,000".
23	(2) REMOVAL OF ANNUAL LIMITATION.—Sub-
24	sections (a), (b), and (c) of section 6695 are each
25	amended by striking the last sentence thereof.

1 (c) REVIEW BY THE TREASURY INSPECTOR GEN-2 ERAL FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION.—Subparagraph (A) of 3 section 7803(d)(2) is amended by striking "and" at the 4 end of clause (iii), by striking the period at the end of 5 clause (iv) and inserting ", and", and by adding at the 6 end the following new clause:

7 "(v) a summary of the penalties as-8 sessed and collected during the reporting 9 period under sections 6694 and 6695 and under the regulations promulgated under 10 11 section 330 of title 31, United States 12 Code, and a review of the procedures by 13 which violations are identified and pen-14 alties are assessed under those sections,". 15 (d) Additional Certification on Documents 16 OTHER THAN RETURNS.—

(1) IDENTIFYING NUMBER REQUIRED FOR ALL
SUBMISSIONS TO THE IRS BY TAX RETURN PREPARERS.—The first sentence of paragraph (4) of
section 6109(a) is amended by striking "return or
claim for refund" and inserting "return, claim for
refund, or other document".

23 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made
24 by paragraph (1) shall apply to documents filed
25 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

1 (e) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 6060(a).—The 2 Secretary of the Treasury shall coordinate the require-3 ments under the regulations promulgated under section 4 330 of title 31, United States Code, with the return re-5 quirements of section 6060 of the Internal Revenue Code 6 of 1986.

7 (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The regulations required by
8 this section shall be prescribed not later than one year
9 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

## 10 SEC. 205. CLARIFICATION OF ENROLLED AGENT CREDEN 11 TIALS.

12 Section 330 of title 31, United States Code, as13 amended by section 202, is amended—

- 14 (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-15 section (f), and
- 16 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-17 lowing new subsection:

"(e) Any enrolled agents properly licensed to practice
as required under rules promulgated under subsection (a)
shall be allowed to use the credentials or designation as
'enrolled agent', 'EA', or 'E.A.'.".

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1	TITLE III—IMPROVING
2	TAXPAYER SERVICES
3	SEC. 301. INDIVIDUALIZED LIEN DETERMINATION RE-
4	QUIRED BEFORE FILING NOTICE OF LIEN.
5	(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6323 is amended by add-
6	ing at the end the following new subsection:
7	"(k) Lien Determination Before Filing.—
8	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall not file
9	a notice of lien before making an individualized lien
10	determination.
11	"(2) LIEN DETERMINATION.—In making an in-
12	dividualized lien determination with respect to a tax-
13	payer, the Secretary shall consider factors, includ-
14	ing—
15	"(A) the amount due,
16	"(B) the lien filing fee,
17	"(C) the value of the taxpayer's equity in
18	the property or right to property,
19	"(D) the taxpayer's tax compliance history,
20	"(E) extenuating circumstances, if any,
21	that explain the delinquency, and
22	"(F) the effect of the filing on the tax-
23	payer's ability to obtain financing, generate fu-
24	ture income, and pay current and future tax li-
25	abilities.

1	"(3) SUPERVISORY REVIEW.—In any case in
2	which—
3	"(A) collecting a liability through a lien
4	imposed under section $6321$ would create an
5	economic hardship (within the meaning of sec-
6	tion 6343(a)(1)(D)), or
7	"(B) the taxpayer does not have significant
8	equity in property or right to property,
9	the Secretary shall not file a notice of lien unless the
10	supervisor of the employee making the lien deter-
11	mination referenced in paragraph (2) also deter-
12	mines that the filing is necessary.
13	"(4) WITHDRAWAL OF LIEN.—A lien filed in
14	violation of this subsection shall be withdrawn under
15	subsection (j).".
16	(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
17	subsection (a) shall apply with respect to liens filed after
18	the date of the enactment of this Act.
19	SEC. 302. BAN ON AUDIT INSURANCE.
20	Section 330 of title 31, United States Code, as
21	amended by sections 202 and 205, is amended by adding
22	at the end the following new subsection:
23	"(g) BAN ON AUDIT INSURANCE.—No person admit-
24	ted to practice before the Department of the Treasury may
25	directly or indirectly offer or provide insurance or other

form of indemnification or reimbursement to cover a tax payer's assessment of federal tax, penalties, or interest.".

#### 3 SEC. 303. PUBLIC AWARENESS.

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6103(k) (relating to dis5 closure of certain returns and return information for tax
6 administration purposes) is amended by adding at the end
7 the following new paragraph:

8 "(10) DISCLOSURE OF RECOGNIZED, CER9 TIFIED, OR REGISTERED PERSONS; REVOCATION OF
10 REGISTRATION.—The Secretary shall furnish to the
11 public—

12 "(A) the identity of any person who— 13 "(i) is an enrolled agent or is an at-14 torney or certified public accountant who 15 either has a power of attorney on file with the Internal Revenue Service or notifies 16 17 the Internal Revenue Service of their sta-18 tus as a preparer of Federal tax returns, 19 "(ii) is certified under section 330(d) 20 of title 31, United States Code, as a tax 21 return preparer, or 22 "(iii) is registered as a refund delivery 23 product facilitator pursuant to section

24 7530, and

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1	"(B) information as to whether or not any
2	person who is otherwise suspended or disbarred
3	is no longer so recognized, certified, or reg-
4	istered (as the case may be).".
5	(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
6	subsection (a) shall take effect not later than two years
7	after the date of enactment of this Act.
8	SEC. 304. CLARIFICATION OF TAXPAYER ASSISTANCE
9	ORDER AUTHORITY.
10	(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 7811(b)
11	is amended—
12	(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and
13	(D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respectively, and
14	(2) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the fol-
15	lowing new subparagraph:
16	"(C) chapter 74 (relating to closing agree-
17	ments and compromises),".
18	(b) Effective Date.—The amendments made by
19	this section shall apply to orders issued after the date of
20	the enactment of this Act.
21	SEC. 305. TAXPAYER ADVOCATE DIRECTIVES.
22	(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 80 is
23	amended by inserting after section 7811 the following new
24	section:

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#### 1 "SEC. 7811A. TAXPAYER ADVOCATE DIRECTIVES.

2 "(a) AUTHORITY TO ISSUE.—The National Taxpayer 3 Advocate may issue a Taxpayer Advocate Directive to mandate administrative or procedural changes to improve 4 5 the operation of a functional process or to grant relief to groups of taxpayers (or all taxpayers) if its implementa-6 7 tion will protect the rights of taxpayers, prevent undue 8 burden, ensure equitable treatment, or provide an essen-9 tial service to taxpayers. A Taxpayer Advocate Directive may only be issued by the National Taxpayer Advocate. 10 11 The terms of a Taxpayer Advocate Directive may require the Commissioner to implement it within a specified period 12 of time. 13

14 "(b) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY OR RESCIND.—Any
15 Taxpayer Advocate Directive may be modified or re16 scinded—

17 "(1) only by the National Taxpayer Advocate,
18 the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, or the Dep19 uty Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and

20 "(2) only if a written explanation of the reasons
21 for the modification or rescission is provided to the
22 National Taxpayer Advocate.".

23 (b) ANNUAL REPORT.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Clause (ii) of section
25 7803(c)(2)(B) is amended by redesignating sub26 clauses (III) through (XI) as subclauses (IV)
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1	through (XII), respectively, and by inserting after
2	subclause (II) the following new subclause:
3	"(III) contain Taxpayer Advocate
4	Directives issued under section
5	7811A;".
6	(2) Conforming Amendments.—Clause (ii) of
7	section $7803(c)(2)(B)$ , as amended by paragraph
8	(1), is amended—
9	(A) by striking "subclauses (I), (II), and
10	(III)" in subclauses (V), (VI), and (VII) thereof
11	and inserting "subclauses (I), (II), (III), and
12	(IV)", and
13	(B) in subclause (VIII)—
14	(i) by inserting "or Taxpayer Advo-
15	cate Directive" after "Taxpayer Assistance
16	Order", and
17	(ii) by inserting "or 7811A(a)" after
18	"section 7811(b)".
19	(c) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sections
20	for subchapter A of chapter 80 is amended by inserting
21	after the item relating to section 7811 the following new
22	item:
	"Sec. 7811A. Taxpayer advocate directives.".
23	SEC. 306. IMPROVED SERVICES FOR TAXPAYERS.
24	(a) IN GENERAL.—It is the sense of Congress that
25	the Internal Revenue Service should within 2 years—
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(1) reduce the time between receipt of an electronically filed return and issuance of a refund,

3 (2) expand assistance to low-income taxpayers,
4 (3) allocate resources to assist low-income tax5 payers in establishing accounts at financial institu6 tions that receive direct deposits from the United
7 States Treasury,

8 (4) deliver tax refunds on debit cards, prepaid
9 cards, and other electronic means to assist individ10 uals that do not have access to financial accounts or
11 institutions,

12 (5) establish a pilot program for satellite walk-13 in centers to be located in rural underserved commu-14 nities without easy access to Internal Revenue Serv-15 ice Taxpayer Assistance Centers by using office fa-16 cilities currently occupied by the Federal Govern-17 ment, including United States Postal Service and 18 Social Security Administration facilities; such sat-19 ellite walk-in centers should have the capability to 20 provide video-conferencing services and scanning or 21 other digitizing functions to deliver, in an interactive 22 manner, all service and compliance functions cur-23 rently available in Internal Revenue Service Tax-24 payer Assistance Centers, and

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(6) establish a pilot program for mobile tax re turn preparation offices.

3 (b) LOCATION OF SERVICE.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The mobile tax return filing
5 offices should be located in communities that the
6 Secretary determines have a high incidence of tax7 payers claiming the earned income tax credit, par8 ticularly in locations with few community volunteer
9 tax preparation clinics.

10 (2) INDIAN RESERVATION.—At least one mobile
11 tax return filing office should be on or near an In12 dian reservation (as defined in section 168(j)(6) of
13 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986).

#### 14 SEC. 307. TAXPAYER ACCESS TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary
of the Treasury may award demonstration project grants
(including multiyear awards) to eligible entities to provide
accounts to individuals who currently do not have an account with a financial institution. The account would be
held in a federally insured depository institution.

(b) PRIORITY.—Priority shall be given to demonstration project proposals that provide accounts at low or no
cost and—

(1) that utilize new technologies such as theprepaid product to expand access to financial serv-

1	ices, in particular for persons without bank ac-
2	counts, with low access to financial services, or low
3	utilization of mainstream financial services,
4	(2) that promote the development of new finan-
5	cial products and services that are adequate to im-
6	prove access to wealth building financial services,
7	which help integrate more Americans into the finan-
8	cial mainstream,
9	(3) that promote education for these persons
10	and depository institutions concerning the avail-
11	ability and use of financial services for and by such
12	persons, and
13	(4) that include other such activities and
14	projects as the Secretary may determine are con-
15	sistent with the purpose of this section.
16	(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—
17	(1) IN GENERAL.—An entity is eligible to re-
18	ceive a grant under this section if such an entity
19	is—
20	(A) an organization described in section
21	501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
22	and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of
23	such Code,
24	(B) a federally insured depository institu-
25	tion,

1	(C) an agency of a State or local govern-
2	ment,
3	(D) a community development financial in-
4	stitution,
5	(E) an Indian tribal organization,
6	(F) an Alaska Native Corporation,
7	(G) a Native Hawaiian organization,
8	(H) an organization described in
9	501(c)(5), and exempt from tax under section
10	501(a), of such Code,
11	(I) a nonbank financial service provider, or
12	(J) a partnership comprised of 1 or more
13	of the entities described in the preceding sub-
14	paragraphs.
15	(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sec-
16	tion—
17	(A) FEDERALLY INSURED DEPOSITORY IN-
18	STITUTION.—The term "federally insured de-
19	pository institution" means any insured deposi-
20	tory institution (as defined in section 3 of the
21	Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C.
22	1813)) and any insured credit union (as defined
23	in section 101 of the Federal Credit Union Act
24	(12 U.S.C. 1752)).

1	(B) Community development finan-
2	CIAL INSTITUTION.—The term "community de-
3	velopment financial institution" means any or-
4	ganization that has been certified as such pur-
5	suant to section 1805.201 of title 12, Code of
6	Federal Regulations.
7	(C) ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATION.—The
8	term "Alaska Native Corporation" has the
9	same meaning as the term "Native Corpora-
10	tion" under section 3(m) of the Alaska Native
11	Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(m)).
12	(D) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION
13	The term "Native Hawaiian organization"
14	means any organization that—
15	(i) serves and represents the interests
16	of Native Hawaiians, and
17	(ii) has as a primary and stated pur-
18	pose the provision of services to Native
19	Hawaiians.
20	(E) LABOR ORGANIZATION.—The term
21	"labor organization" means an organization—
22	(i) in which employees participate,
23	(ii) which exists for the purpose, in
24	whole or in part, of dealing with employers
25	concerning grievances, labor disputes,

1	wages, rates of pay, hours of employment,
2	or conditions of work, and
3	(iii) which is described in section
4	501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of
5	1986.
6	(F) NONBANK FINANCIAL SERVICE PRO-
7	VIDER.—The term "nonbank financial service
8	provider" mean an entity that engages in finan-
9	cial services activities, as authorized under the
10	Federal Reserve Board, 12 Code of Federal
11	Regulations Part 225, Regulation Y.
12	(d) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity shall submit an
13	application to the Secretary of the Treasury in such form
14	and containing such information as the Secretary may re-
15	quire.
16	(e) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—For each fiscal year
17	in which a grant is awarded under this section, the Sec-
18	retary of the Treasury shall submit a report to Congress
19	containing a description of the activities funded, amounts
20	distributed, and measurable results, as appropriate and
21	available.
22	(f) Power and Authority of the Secretary.—
23	(1) Assistance.—Subject to appropriations,
24	the Secretary of the Treasury may provide financial
25	and technical assistance to awardees for expanding

1	the distribution of financial services, including
2	through financial services electronic networks.
3	(2) Research and development.—The Sec-
4	retary of the Treasury may conduct or support such
5	research and development as the Secretary considers
6	appropriate in order to further the purpose of this
7	section, including the collection of information about
8	access to financial services.
9	(3) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of the
10	Treasury is authorized to promulgate regulations to
11	implement and administer the program under this
12	section.
13	(g) Study on Delivery of Tax Refunds.—
14	(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treas-
15	ury, in consultation with the National Taxpayer Ad-
16	vocate, shall conduct a study on the feasibility of de-
17	livering tax refunds on debit cards, prepaid cards,
18	and other electronic means to assist individuals that
19	do not have access to financial accounts or institu-
20	tions.
21	(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
22	date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
23	Treasury shall submit a report to Congress con-
24	taining the results of the study conducted under
25	paragraph (1).

2 (a) STUDY ON ACCELERATED PROCESSING OF IN3 FORMATION RETURNS.—

4 (1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following: 5 (A) Under current procedures, the Internal 6 Revenue Service processes income tax returns 7 before it processes most information returns, 8 including Forms W-2, which report wages and 9 tax withholding, and Forms 1099, which report 10 interest, dividends, and other payments. 11 (B) The sequence described in subpara-12 graph (A) makes little logical sense. 13 (C) From a taxpayer perspective, the se-14 quence leads to millions of cases where tax-15 payers inadvertently make overclaims that the 16 Internal Revenue Service does not identify until 17 months later, exposing the taxpayer not only to 18 a tax liability but to penalties and interest 19 charges as well.

(D) From the Federal Government's perspective, this sequence creates opportunities for
fraud and requires the Internal Revenue Service
to devote resources to recovering refunds that
should not have been paid and that it often
cannot recover.

1 (2) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in 2 consultation with the National Taxpayer Advocate, 3 shall conduct a study to identify and recommend leg-4 islative and administrative changes that would enable the Internal Revenue Service to receive and 5 6 process information reporting documents before it 7 processes tax returns. In conducting the study, the 8 Secretary shall consider, among other factors, the 9 issues identified in the National Taxpayer Advo-10 cate's 2009 Annual Report to Congress.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
Treasury shall submit a report to Congress describing the results of the study conducted under paragraph (2).

16 (b) STUDY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF COLLECTION
17 ALTERNATIVES.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treas-19 ury, in consultation with the National Taxpayer Ad-20 vocate, shall conduct a study to assess the effective-21 ness of collection alternatives, especially offers in 22 compromise, on long-term tax compliance. Such a 23 study shall analyze a group of taxpayers who applied 24 for offers in compromise 5 or more years ago and 25 compare the amount of revenue collected from the taxpayers whose offers were accepted with the
 amount of revenue collected from the taxpayers
 whose offers were rejected, and compare, among the
 taxpayers whose offers were rejected, the amount
 they offered with the amounts collected.

6 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the 7 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the 8 Treasury shall submit a report to Congress con-9 taining the results of the study conducted under 10 paragraph (1).

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