

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY
PANEL
ON FEDERAL TAX REFORM

General

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Connie Mack III, Chairman
The President's Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform
1440 New York Avenue NW Suite 2100
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Chairman Mack;

I am honored to be able to contribute to this historic, ambitious undertaking--TAX REFORM! I am a private-sector worker and have been blessed with steady work for 23 years. During this time, I have almost always calculated my own taxes. The following is a list of "headaches", in order of importance, that I have encountered because of the existing tax system;

- 1. PROBLEM;** Internal Revenue Service agents, managers, collections officers, and others responsible for tax administration cannot or will not answer questions about the Internal Revenue Code and do not follow IRC procedure, rules and regulations.
SOLUTION; These tax administrators (listed above) need to be certified in their own rules, regulations and procedures by taking a test that certifies their knowledge and abilities. They also need to swear an oath to uphold the law and Constitution so help them GOD. The certification and oath should be made public record for all to see.
- 2. PROBLEM:** IRS agents and, probably, the others listed above act outside of their authority when dealing with private-sector workers.
SOLUTION; Anytime an agent or other IRS representative deals with anyone concerning any tax matter, their delegation of authority from the Secretary must be presented along with the limits of their authority. This document must be certified by the Secretary and must be signed "under penalties of perjury."
- 3. PROBLEM;** What part of the IRC applies to federal workers and what part applies to private-sector workers? This is very unclear and difficult to determine.
SOLUTION; Have the code separated according to your tax liability as a federal worker, company, corporation, etc. and private-sector worker, company, corporation, etc.
- 4. PROBLEM;** Words that do not retain their common meanings are not conspicuously defined in the code.
SOLUTION; If words in the IRC do not retain their common meaning, they need to be defined in a more conspicuous space--at the very beginning of the code.
- 5. PROBLEM;** Stop IRS BLUFFING! The IRS computer sends out "Notices of Deficiency" that are uncertified and invalid (no signature, not signed under penalty of perjury).
SOLUTION; Any document coming from the IRS saying someone owes any amount of money needs to be certified by someone with their name clearly printed and signed under penalty of perjury.

6. **PROBLEM;** The IRS computer is OUT OF CONTROL! Whenever I got a form letter it was always unsigned. I always replied in writing sending it certified mail in a timely manner. My concerns were never addressed and before long I got another, and another, and another and before I know it my paycheck is being levied without a court order, due process or anything!! This is my current situation NOW! I NEED HELP!! I have sent letters to Treasury Secretary Snow, IRS Commissioner Everson, Treasury Inspector General, IRS agent Denise Bradley. No response or action, to date, from anyone!!
SOLUTION; Problem resolution should be a priority and I believe this problem exists because PROBLEMS 1 thru 5 (above) exist. I am getting \$341.67 per bimonthly paycheck (this is WAY more than the maximum of 15% the IRS is supposed to take). This is also illegal because of the lack of due process (no court order). I have always felt secure in the fruits of my labor because I knew that I and others had access to justice through the court systems. I invited the IRS to sue me but they didn't. They just levied a private citizen's paycheck!!
7. **PROBLEM;** IRS hearings are ineffective and a waste of time and money. For example, in a Collection Due Process Hearing, the agent says she has no authority to answer any questions and the only purpose of the hearing is to determine form of payment ie "how will you pay the amount we say you owe, even though you say you don't, cash, check, credit card etc?" During the meeting, the agent is unable or unwilling to verify the debt with a certified assessment. The IRS agents work as though they have a quota!
SOLUTION; This Collection Due Process Hearing should be designed to answer openly, honestly, any tax related questions and provide the necessary certified and validated documents before anyone is required to hand over any amount of their hard earned money. If the agents work to achieve a quota, this should be eliminated.
8. **PROBLEM;** Civil Penalties are indiscriminately charged without any kind of due process.
SOLUTION; The IRC should require agents to warn taxpayers that they may incur this cost and provide an opportunity for a hearing. Civil Penalties currently are charged without warning or without opportunity for a hearing. This should be an opportunity to educate not to extort.

The aspects of the tax system that are unfair are many. When the system violates any fundamental, substantial, procedural right, it is unfair. In an effort to keep my life simple, I have decided not to buy a house, not to make too much money, not to save money, live paycheck to paycheck, and not to start my own business. These were my dreams at one time until I learned the reality of living. My decisions are mostly based on the complexity of the tax system and it's associated economic maladies.

The following should be the tax reform panel's goals;

1. Establish a committee or charge an existing entity with righting the wrongs of the current system and help people like me get justice without going to court (I can't afford a lawyer and do not trust most of them). Millions of private citizens are losing their paychecks, bank account savings and homes to illegal levies, lock-in letters, seizures etc. Helping these people would be the American and right thing to do. WE ALL NEED A HERO!! Please give people, like me, a name and face to talk with and help us solve our IRS problems! We need a "Dr. Phil" for Tax Rescue!
2. The new tax system should preserve, with due diligence, our fundamental rights. Stop computer generated paper terrorism!! Stop bluffing by IRS agents!! Please include a "NO TOLERANCE FOR DISHONESTY AND BLUFFING" as one of your goals.

3. Organize the IRC so that codes that apply to private workers and those that apply to federal workers are clearly separated. Clearly identify tax liabilities for taxable activities to prevent mistakes, misunderstandings and misinterpretations. Include references to statutes and implementing regulations. Include definitions of material terms, like "employee", "wages", "United States", etc. at the beginning of the code since these words do not retain their common meanings.
4. Create stiff penalties for IRS agents, managers, etc. who misapply the code or do not follow the code. Ignorance of the code by IRS personnel should not be tolerated and penalties should be stiff and swift.
5. Administration of the current tax code is the main problem. The current code should be void for vagueness. Your goal should be to make the code simple enough in organization and wording that the average American can understand it.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my opinions and observations. Above all, THANK YOU for any help you can give me with my own personal tax "headache." God Bless you and your panel now and always.

Sincerely and Respectfully Submitted,



Alina Felice