

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

August 6, 2020

The Honorable Charles Rettig
Commissioner
Internal Revenue Service
111 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20224

Dear Commissioner Rettig:

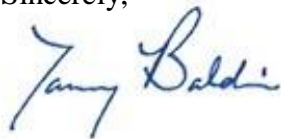
I write to request immediate action to ensure that taxpayers who filed an injured spouse claim with their tax return receive the full Economic Impact Payment (EIP) they are due under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act; P.L. 116-136).

In April, I wrote to Secretary Mnuchin after hearing from Wisconsin families who were just then learning that their full stimulus payment had been intercepted to collect a past-due child support obligation—including the portion of the stimulus payment due to those who had filed an injured spouse claim. While IRS acknowledged the error, these individuals and their families have been waiting all this time to receive their much needed stimulus payment to meet their basic needs—including rent or mortgage payments, groceries and prescriptions.

Finally, it appears as though eligible individuals who filed an injured spouse claim will be receiving their stimulus payment. Last week, the Taxpayer Advocate Service relayed in a blog post that the IRS has established procedures and committed to correcting Economic Impact Payment errors for a limited number of scenarios, including for eligible individuals who filed Form 8379, Injured Spouse Allocation, or can complete and return the Form 8379, and did not receive their stimulus payment. The Taxpayer Advocate went on to note that the IRS will issue the injured spouse's portion of the EIP in the coming weeks.

This is overdue but welcome news for families across the country whose stimulus payments were wrongfully withheld due to IRS error. I urge you to immediately update the IRS website with this information and work to get the stimulus payments out as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator