

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515**

March 7, 2019

The Honorable Richard Neal
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Lewis
Chairman, Subcommittee on Oversight
Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Neal and Oversight Subcommittee Chairman Lewis,

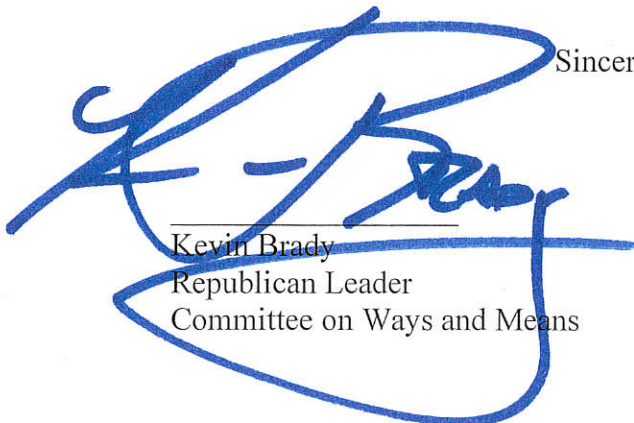
Thank you for convening today's hearing about the National Taxpayer Advocate's perspective on the current tax filing season at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). This hearing builds on the years-long review of taxpayer interactions with the IRS, culminating in the introduction of the Taxpayer First Act.

As you know, the bipartisan Taxpayer First Act passed the House three times with nearly unanimous support. It included key commonsense provisions that would help keep the IRS focused on serving taxpayers and make much needed reforms to the agency's aging information technology infrastructure. Importantly, the bill would take steps to prioritize assistance for low income taxpayers seeking help filing their taxes.

The annual tax filing season is a good reminder of the key relationship the IRS has with American families and businesses. At today's hearing we look forward to continuing discussions on ways to restructure the IRS to better serve taxpayers. There should be no more delay in passing historic bipartisan legislation to restructure the IRS.

We congratulate the National Taxpayer Advocate, Nina Olson, on her recently announced retirement and welcome her testimony.

Sincerely,



Kevin Brady
Republican Leader
Committee on Ways and Means



Mike Kelly
Republican Leader
Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Oversight