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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 19, 2020

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin
Secretary of the Treasury
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin:

Thank you for recently taking steps to provide tax relief to the American people during this public health emergency. I request that you also extend the tax filing deadline beyond April 15th to an appropriate date. I understand the advantage of continuing to file a tax return should a taxpayer expect to receive a tax refund, and taxpayers that have already prepared their return may choose to file by the current deadline.

Taxpayers that have not yet filed are facing difficulty in meeting the deadline due to the limited ability to meet with tax professionals. In this unprecedented situation many are concerned about the in-person interactions required to accurately prepare tax returns. According to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, approximately 60% of taxpayers use a tax professional to prepare and file their tax returns. However, many tax preparation businesses have closed or are operating with minimal staff.

Federal government guidelines request individuals stay six feet away from others and do not gather in groups of more than ten people. Extending the tax filing deadline will help limit Coronavirus transmission and give taxpayers relief in order to meet immediate financial needs. I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Burgess" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael C. Burgess, M.D.

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