



**The Honorable Scott Bessent**

Secretary, U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Bessent,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, which collectively represent hundreds of thousands of tax professionals serving millions of taxpayers nationwide, we write to share our concerns and offer constructive priorities in response to the Internal Revenue Service's recent workforce updates.

Our organizations have a long-standing history of working closely with the IRS to support its mission and improve taxpayer outcomes. We share a deep commitment to ensuring the agency's long-term success and effectiveness. With decades of experience assisting taxpayers and navigating evolving tax policy and administration, we are uniquely positioned to provide informed, practical insight. It is in that spirit that we offer this feedback, with the goal of strengthening operations, building public trust and ensuring the IRS remains a cornerstone of effective government service.

According to the agency's report, more than 11,400 employees, approximately 11% of the IRS workforce, have exited since February 2025, including 7,315 probationary terminations and over 4,000 voluntary resignations through the Deferred Resignation Program. These developments and the additional force reductions raise significant concerns about the continuity of core services and communication channels that taxpayers and tax professionals depend on, especially during periods of legislative change and filing complexity.

To address these issues, we offer the following recommendations, which will help preserve the stability and accessibility of essential services.

## **1. Ensure Consistent, Timely Tax Guidance**

Tax professionals rely on accurate and current guidance to ensure compliance and prevent costly errors for taxpayers. Reductions in staff, particularly within the Communications and Liaison teams, risk the timely dissemination of form instructions, procedural updates and legislative implementation materials.

We urge Treasury and the IRS to prioritize practitioner-facing communications, including news alerts, updated FAQs, guidance memos and field tools. Establishing a dedicated task force to oversee continuity in external tax guidance during this transition may help mitigate service gaps.

## **2. Accelerate IRS Modernization to Offset Reduced Capacity**

As the IRS adapts to a smaller workforce, digital infrastructure must play a central role in preserving service delivery. We strongly support continued investment in improving the efficiency of return processing, automating transcript delivery, streamlining CAF procedures and enhancing secure practitioner portals. To ensure sustained progress, we recommend that the Department prioritize and protect modernization efforts from future workforce-related reallocations and consider expediting rollout timelines where possible. These efforts will directly reduce taxpayer and preparer burdens while improving operational efficiency.

## **3. Deepen Engagement with the Tax Professional Community**

Practitioner organizations offer a direct line to the real-world challenges both taxpayers and tax professionals face. The IRS can identify implementation barriers and refine program rollout strategies by formalizing recurring feedback mechanisms, such as monthly advisory forums or pilot user groups for digital tools.

These partnerships foster public trust and help ensure agency initiatives are aligned with field realities, ultimately enhancing compliance and service quality.

This letter reflects a shared commitment to an effective tax administration system that serves all stakeholders. The IRS cannot succeed without a strong and informed tax professional community, and our members cannot succeed without consistent, timely access to the tools and support the IRS provides.

We welcome the opportunity to collaborate further and respectfully request a follow-up discussion or briefing with relevant agency personnel to explore how we may support continuity efforts during this transition.

Sincerely,

Scott Artman, CPA, CGMA  
Chief Executive Officer  
**National Association of Tax Professionals**  
[sartman@natptax.com](mailto:sartman@natptax.com)

Megan Killian, CAE  
Executive Vice President  
**National Association of Enrolled Agents**  
[mkillian@naea.org](mailto:mkillian@naea.org)

Joshua C. Caulfield, DBA, IOM  
Chief Executive Officer  
**National Society of Accountants**  
[jcaulfield@nsacct.org](mailto:jcaulfield@nsacct.org)

Keith Huebel, CPA  
President  
**National Society of Tax Professionals**  
[Keith.huebel@Huebelcpas.com](mailto:Keith.huebel@Huebelcpas.com)