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February 20, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson and Majority Leader Thune,

On behalf of the National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP) and our 24,000 members who serve millions of taxpayers nationwide, I am writing to express deep concern over reports that the newly established Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) may be granted access to sensitive taxpayer data housed within the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

As an organization supporting tax preparers dedicated to the integrity and security of the tax system, we urge Congress to ensure that any access to data follows the highest standards of oversight, transparency and regulatory compliance. Taxpayer confidence depends on strong safeguards that protect personal and financial information. Access without clear boundaries and strict security measures risk eroding that trust.

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights and the Taxpayer First Act highlight the critical need to protect taxpayer data. Any access to confidential records without rigorous oversight increases the risk of misuse, security breaches and diminished public confidence in the IRS. Any proposed changes to data access must be:

- Clearly defined and justified, with explicit legal and operational safeguards to prevent unauthorized use
- Subject to strict oversight, ensuring access is limited to those with a direct and necessary role in tax administration
- Aligned with existing taxpayer protections to maintain confidentiality under the Internal Revenue Code

NATP urges Congress to take a strong stance in protecting taxpayer data. Lawmakers should carefully evaluate any proposal expanding access to IRS records and prioritize taxpayer rights in policy discussions. We stand ready to collaborate and provide expertise to help shape policies that strengthen data security while protecting taxpayers.

I appreciate your attention to this critical issue and welcome the opportunity to discuss NATP's position further. Please feel free to contact me at sartman@natptax.com.

Sincerely,

Scott Artman, CPA, CGMA
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP)

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