

Mr. Steven Mnuchin, Secretary Department of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin:

We are appealing to you on behalf of our 23,000 tax professional members regarding the exclusion of a tax filing extension to this tax season in light of the current COVID-19 situation. While we are grateful that the Treasury extended federal tax payments and waived penalties, we don't believe that goes far enough. As the largest organization representing and working on behalf of all federal tax preparers, we are collecting concerns from our members who are on the front lines of tax prep in the heart of tax season.

Specifically, the challenges we are hearing include an inability for in-person appointments by taxpayers due to the following:

- Mandatory closures of businesses in some cities
- · Reduced number of allowable people in one gathering
- Adherence to social distancing recommendations
- An inability of tax practice staff to work due to school closures resulting in unexpected childcare responsibilities
- A lack of tax practices with the technology to serve their clients virtually
- An inability of taxpayers to attend tax appointments virtually due to lack of technology understanding or hardware

We are hopeful that you will reconsider the limitation of extending only payments and waived penalties and endorse a tax filing extension through July 15, 2020.

As always, NATP is available to provide any information you may need from the preparer perspective. Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Scott Artman, CPA

**NATP Executive Director** 

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NATP National President