

AARP & 60 PLUS AGREE: SENIORS DESERVE SIMPLIFIED TAX FILING COSPONSOR H.R. 432

January 24, 2007

Dear Colleague:

I am writing to invite you to cosponsor the "Seniors' Tax Simplification Act of 2007" (H.R. 432), legislation that would permit our nation's senior citizens to file their federal income taxes on a new and simplified Form 1040S. Both AARP and the 60 Plus Association have strongly endorsed this legislation.

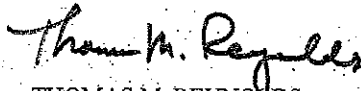
Under current IRS rules, taxpayers with relatively uncomplicated financial lives are generally eligible to file their taxes using the IRS's simplest tax form -- the 1040EZ. However, individuals who are age 65 or older are expressly prohibited from using the 1040EZ, requiring them to use other more complicated forms. That's right; no matter how simple and straightforward their returns, senior citizens are categorically denied the opportunity to use the IRS's most convenient tax form simply because they are over the age of 65.

My bill would correct this inequity by directing the IRS to develop and make available a simple form -- as similar as practicable to the 1040EZ -- for use by individuals over the age of 65 who receive common forms of retirement income. The IRS has estimated that as many as 11 million senior citizens would be able to take advantage of this new, simplified form in its first year of availability.

You may recall that the House passed a previous version of this legislation on a bipartisan basis during the 108th Congress, but it was never enacted into law. With the number of senior taxpayers expected to rise in the coming years as the baby boom generation approaches retirement, it is more important than ever to simplify the tax filing process for our nation's senior citizens.

If you are interested in cosponsoring this legislation -- or if you have any questions -- please have a member of your staff contact Dave Olander, my Tax & Policy Counsel, at 5-5265. Thank you very much for your consideration, and I look forward to working with you further on this important issue.

Sincerely,


THOMAS M. REYNOLDS
Member of Congress



January 17, 2007

The Honorable Thomas M. Reynolds
U.S. House of Representatives
332 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. Reynolds:

AARP is pleased to support H.R. 432, the Seniors' Tax Simplification Act of 2007 that would require the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to offer a simplified tax form for seniors, similar to the Form 1040EZ. The new form designated "Form 1040S" would be available for senior taxpayers to use in filing their 2008 returns.

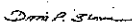
Under present IRS rules, there are three principal forms available for use by the majority of taxpayers. These forms include Form 1040, Form 1040A, and, for certain taxpayers under the age of 65 with no dependents and taxable income of less than \$10,000, Form 1040EZ. More than 35 million individuals age 65 or older are not permitted to use Form 1040EZ. The number of senior taxpayers is expected to increase substantially in the years ahead as the baby boom generation approaches retirement.

The Seniors' Tax Simplification Act of 2007 would require the IRS to offer individuals age 65 and older a Form 1040S that is as similar as practicable to Form 1040EZ. The bill directs the IRS to make the form available notwithstanding the receipt of social security benefits, distributions from a qualified retirement plan, annuity, or other deferred payment arrangement, interest or dividends, or capital gains or losses. The IRS estimates that as many as 11 million seniors will use the new form in the first year it is made available.

AARP recommends you for your leadership on this important bill that will simplify the tax filing process for millions of senior citizens. We look forward to working with you to enact this legislation this year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me or have your staff contact Frank Tootley of our Federal Affairs staff at (202) 434-3760.

Sincerely,



David P. Sloane
Senior Managing Director
Government Relations and Advocacy

The 60 Plus Association

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James L. Martin
President

Rep. Roger Stone (R-MD, 1987-71)
Honorary Chairman

Pat Boone
National Spokesman

The Honorable Thomas M. Reynolds
332 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 16, 2007

Dear Congressman Reynolds:

The 60 Plus Association strongly supports your new legislation -- the "Seniors' Tax Simplification Act of 2007" (H.R. 432) -- which would create a new simplified 1040S for our nation's senior taxpayers. This senior-friendly proposal would dramatically simplify the federal income tax filing process for millions of our nation's senior citizens.

As your legislation correctly recognizes, IRS rules currently prevent senior citizens from using the simplest tax form that is available to the general public, the 1040EZ. Even seniors with straightforward returns and so-called "deductions" are denied the opportunity to use the 1040EZ, simply because they are over the age of 65. There is absolutely no reason for the IRS to discriminate against seniors by requiring them, solely because of their age, to use more complicated and burdensome tax forms than necessary.

Your common-sense legislation would require the IRS to make available a new, simplified Form 1040S exclusively for seniors. This new form would be as similar as possible to the current 1040EZ and would be available to seniors who receive common forms of retirement income, such as Social Security benefits and distributions from retirement plans. This idea is long overdue and would be a tremendous benefit to millions of seniors across the country.

Again, on behalf of the 4.5 million supporters of 60 Plus, I am pleased to offer the strongest possible endorsement of this outstanding, senior-friendly proposal. We commend you for your ongoing leadership on this and other issues of importance to our nation's senior citizens, and we look forward to working with you to enact the "Seniors' Tax Simplification Act of 2007" at the earliest possible opportunity.

Sincerely,



James L. Martin
President

P.S. This proposal is just one more reason why the 60 Plus Association proudly proclaims you as a champion and protector of the rights of senior citizens. Thank you!

The 60 Plus Association is a 15-year-old nonpartisan organization taking on important issues such as death tax repeal, ending Social Security, seeking to lower energy costs, affordable prescription drugs and other senior-friendly issues, fighting a tax government, long-term approach. 60 Plus calls on support from nearly 4.5 million citizens activists. 60 Plus publishes a quarterly magazine, SENIOR VOICE, and a bi-weekly newsletter, bestowing a "Guardian of Seniors' Rights" award on lawmakers of both parties who vote "pro-senior." 60 Plus has been called "an increasingly influential senior citizens' group" and "the conservative alternative to the AARP." 60 Plus has established a membership benefit program. To join 60 Plus or for further information, please go to our website at www.60plus.org or call 888-566-PLUS (7137).