



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

LEGISLATIVE ALERT

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ATR STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE ENSIGN-ALLEN-DEMINT-BOND PROVISION IN THE FY06 TTHUD APPROPS BILL

Americans for Tax Reform strongly supports the Ensign-Allen-DeMint-Bond provision which was added to the FY06 Transportation-Treasury-HUD Appropriations Act unanimously by the United States Senate, and urges the conference committee to retain this provision.

This provision would prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from spending taxpayer funds to develop its own tax preparation software. If this provision does not remain in the FY06 TTHUD bill, the IRS will be free to implement a "Return Free" tax filing scheme where the IRS would become both tax collector and tax preparer. Taxpayers would simply get a bill from IRS once a year with the government's assessment of their tax liability. This is an inherent conflict of interest between tax collector and tax preparer.

The issue of whether the government should take on the conflicting roles of tax collector and tax preparer has been the subject of a continuous policy debate since the late 1990's. The Ensign-Allen-DeMint-Bond provision will finally put an end to this "Return-Free" Tax System once and for all if it remains in the FY06 TTHUD bill (H.R. 3058) and is signed into law.

ATR strongly urges every House Member to speak directly with the Chairman and conferees, informing them of your support for the provision, and asking them to keep this provision in the FY06 TTHUD Appropriations Act conference report.

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