

ATR <u>MAY RATE</u> A VOTE FOR THE ENSIGN-ALLEN-DEMINT AMENDMENT TO TTHUD APPROPS AS A VOTE FOR TAXPAYERS

Americans for Tax Reform strongly supports the Ensign amendment to Transportation-Treasury-HUD Appropriations, which prohibits the Internal Revenue Service from spending funds to develop its own tax preparation software. Such a move by the IRS would be a backdoor attempt to implement a "Return Free" tax filing scheme, in which the IRS would both collect taxes and prepare the tax returns.

The private sector already offers free tax preparation and filing to low-income taxpayers – at no cost to the federal government. In exchange for this free service, the IRS has agreed not to offer its own tax prep software and services. However, the IRS now wants to change the terms of this agreement so that it can reach its goal of a future Return Free tax filing scheme.

The Ensign-Allen-DeMint amendment will preserve the Free File Alliance and stop the IRS from taking over the tax preparation process – an inherent conflict of interest between tax collector and tax preparer.

The Ensign-Allen-DeMint Amendment (S.Amdt. 2066) is expected to be considered today. **ATR** strongly urges you to cosponsor and support this amendment.

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To cosponsor this amendment, please contact Chris Jaarda in Sen. Ensign's office at 4-6244.