## United States Senate

**WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908** 

April 1, 2020

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin Secretary of the Treasury U.S. Department of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20220 The Honorable Charles P. Rettig Commissioner Internal Revenue Service 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20224

Dear Secretary Mnuchin and Commissioner Rettig:

On Monday, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released information regarding the Economic Impact Payments established by H.R. 748, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, or the "CARES Act," which was signed into law on March 27, 2020. We were concerned to see the IRS indicate they would require a tax return to be filed for those who normally do not file taxes –including many seniors and Social Security recipients – to receive the payment.

Our offices have already fielded many questions from seniors with concerns and questions about their eligibility for Economic Impact Payments, and what is required of them to receive the payment. At a time of great danger and stress for our seniors, we fear that requiring them to submit paperwork will exacerbate the challenges they face and create confusion, especially since they do not have access to tools that would normally be at their disposal, such as Tax Counseling for the Elderly.

We respectfully request that you work to ensure that seniors who normally do not file taxes have the ability to receive Economic Impact Payments automatically. The CARES law allows the IRS to provide Economic Impact Payments based on Form SSA-1099 Social Security Benefit Statements, and we encourage you to work with the Social Security Administration to utilize this and other tools as needed to accomplish this task.

Sincerely,

Joni K. Ernst

**United States Senator** 

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Marco Rubio United States Senator

Roger F. Wicker United States Senator

s/ M. Michael Rounds United States Senator