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NATP supports congressional push for IRS action ahead of 2023 tax season  
*IRS backlog increased by 1.3 million from same point last year, IRS only met 12 percent of hiring goal*

APPLETON, Wis. (Aug. 18, 2022) – The IRS’s backlog of unprocessed tax returns has only increased since its pledge to work on the issue, according to a recent report from the National Taxpayer Advocate, leaving the IRS in a critical state that could adversely impact taxpayers and preparers ahead of the 2023 tax season.

Earlier this year, the National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP), as part of the Tax Professionals United for Taxpayer Relief Coalition, [sent a letter](#) to the IRS asking for relief for taxpayers and to address the backlog.

NATP is once again urging the IRS to act swiftly, as it supports a push from Congress this week with [a letter](#) sent to IRS Commissioner Rettig to address the increased backlog and dismal hiring numbers.

The letter was sent on behalf of 93 members of the House and Senate, led by Senators Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Bill Cassidy (R-LA), and Representatives Abigail Spanberger (D-VA) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), stating the IRS should “take additional steps to improve customer service issues, decrease processing delays and work-down the backlog of paper returns and correspondence by continuing the maximum use of overtime and surge teams.”

The letter continues, “Additionally, the IRS must improve its recruitment and retention efforts to adequately address the backlog and increase levels of taxpayer service.”

NATP Executive Director Scott Artman, CPA, CGMA, said the association is pleased to endorse the request for action by the Members.

“NATP has always been and will continue to be an outspoken advocate of the need for expeditious solutions for the current IRS return backlogs and processing delays,” Artman said. “It’s concerning to see these issues are not being solved as quickly as promised. It is imperative to address the increasing backlog and lack of taxpayer relief before the 2023 tax season.”

To speak with an expert at NATP about any of these issues, please contact [Nancy Kasten](#) or [Samantha Strong](#).

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**About NATP:** The National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP) is the largest association dedicated to equipping tax professionals with the resources, connections and education they need to provide the highest level of service to their clients. 23,000 members rely on NATP to deliver professional connections, content expertise and advocacy that provides them with the support they need to best serve their clients. The NATP headquarters is located in Appleton, WI. To learn more, visit [www.natptax.com](http://www.natptax.com).

**Looking for a tax expert?** Tom O'Saben, EA, is the director of tax content and government relations at the National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP). Tom is available for phone or video interviews to discuss federal tax topics including tax law change and its implications, taxpayer issues, tax preparer regulation and more. To schedule an interview with O'Saben, contact [nkasten@natptax.com](mailto:nkasten@natptax.com).