

- 1. H.R. 3724: Ensuring Integrity in the IRS Workforce Act (Rep. Noem, R-SD)
- 2. <u>H.R. 4890</u>: To impose a ban on the payment of bonuses to employees of the Internal Revenue Service until the Secretary of the Treasury develops and implements a comprehensive customer service strategy (Rep. Meehan, R-PA)

H.R. 3724: Ensuring Integrity in the IRS Workforce Act (Rep. Noem, R-SD)

CONTACT: Matt Dickerson, 202-226-9718

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

The bill is expected to be considered on April 21, 2016, under a closed rule.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

<u>H.R. 3724</u> would prohibit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) from rehiring any former employee of the IRS that was fired for cause.

COST:

The <u>Congressional Budget Office</u> (CBO) estimates that enacting H.R. 3724 "would not have a significant cost over the next five years because it would not change the agency's current employment procedures."

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- Encroach into State or Local Authority? No.
- Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch? No.
- Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 3724 would prohibit the IRS from rehiring former employees who were terminated for cause.

According to a <u>report</u> from the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, the IRS rehired 323 former employees who had "significant prior performance or conduct issues."

According to the <u>CBO</u>, "As recommended by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, the IRS now considers prior conduct and performance issues in the hiring process."

OUTSIDE GROUP SUPPORT:

- Americans for Tax Reform
- National Taxpayers Union: Key Vote

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 3724 was introduced on October 8, 2015, and referred to the Ways and Means Committee. The Committee marked up the bill on <u>April 13, 2016</u>, and reported the bill by a voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

According to the <u>Statement of Administration Policy</u>, "The Administration opposes ... H.R. 3724, the Ensuring Integrity in the IRS Workforce Act of 2015."

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

"Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Secion [Sic] 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the Constitution of the United States."

H.R. 4890: To impose a ban on the payment of bonuses to employees of the Internal Revenue Service until the Secretary of the Treasury develops and implements a comprehensive customer service strategy (Rep. Meehan, R-PA)

CONTACT: Matt Dickerson, 202-226-9718

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

The bill is expected to be considered on April 21, 2016, under a <u>structured rule</u>.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

<u>H.R. 4890</u> would prohibit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) from paying bonuses to employees until it develops and implements a customer service strategy.

COST:

The <u>Congressional Budget Office</u> (CBO) estimates that enacting H.R. 4890 "would cost about \$2 million in 2017 for additional administrative and personnel costs to prepare the required strategy; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds."

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- Encroach into State or Local Authority? No.
- Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch? No.
- Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 4890 would prohibit the IRS from paying bonuses to employees until the Secretary of the Treasury submits to Congress a comprehensive customer service strategy. The strategy must include appropriate levels of service for telephone and correspondence, an assessment of which services can be shifted to self-service and other proposals to improve customer service. The strategy must also be reviewed and approved by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

An analysis from the <u>Government Accountability Office</u> (GAO), "found that Treasury and IRS have neither developed nor have any plans to develop a comprehensive customer service strategy to define appropriate service levels and benchmark to the best in business or customer expectations as GAO has previously recommended."

Between 2010 and 2015, the IRS paid out \$5.97 million in employee bonuses.

AMENDMENTS MADE IN ORDER:

- 1. <u>Brady (R-TX)</u>: Managers amendment that would clarify that the requirements of the bill would be carried out using only funds that are appropriated.
- 2. <u>Sanford (R-SC)</u>: Would require that the IRS consult with the National Taxpayers Advocate in developing the customer service strategy.



OUTSIDE GROUP SUPPORT:

- Americans for Tax Reform
- National Taxpayers Union: Key Vote

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4890 was introduced on April 11, 2015, and referred to the Ways and Means Committee. The Committee marked up the bill on April 13, 2016, and reported the bill by a 24 - 15 vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

According to the <u>Statement of Administration Policy</u>, "The Administration opposes ... H.R. 4890, the IRS Bonuses Tied to Measurable Metrics Act."

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

"Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Clause 1 and clause 18 of Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution."

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