



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20224

OFFICE OF  
CHIEF COUNSEL

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The Honorable Michael Bilirakis  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
2369 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0909

Dear Congressman Bilirakis:

I am responding to your February 28, 2001, letter on behalf of your constituent, Mr. [REDACTED]. Mr. [REDACTED] is concerned about the additional costs of electronically filing an income tax return.

I understand his concerns about the costs and his desire for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to provide this service to taxpayers directly through our web site. However, the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 (RRA98) encourages us to partner with the private sector to improve these services, but not to provide them directly to taxpayers.

As a result of RRA98, several IRS *e-file* partners are offering free or low-cost tax preparation (including downloading software) and free electronic filing for individual taxpayers. Some partners offer these services for business taxpayers, as well. For a description of the services our partners are providing, please visit our web site at <http://www.irs.gov> and click on "Electronic Services."

Thank you for your comments and suggestions regarding electronic filing. We appreciate your interest in our electronic filing program. If you have further comments or concerns, please contact Elizabeth Kaye at (202) 622-4910.

Sincerely,

By: \_\_\_\_\_

JAMES C. GIBBONS

Chief, Branch 1  
Administrative Provisions and  
Judicial Practice Division  
(Procedure and Administration)