



PROFESSIONAL MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

An Association for Federal Managers and Management Officials

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PMA Releases Statement on Passage of the Taxpayer First Act

Washington, D.C. – Executive Director Thomas Burger of the Professional Managers Association (PMA) released the following statement regarding passage of the Taxpayer First Act:

“The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has needed reform and modernization for a long time. With the passage of the bipartisan Taxpayer First Act, the Agency finally has a plan to fuel their own success. We applaud the members of Congress and the President for working together to pass this important and historic legislation,” Burger noted.

“By requiring the IRS to submit a modernization plan to Congress, this bill places the agency in charge of its own future and emboldens IRS professionals to identify and correct inefficiencies within the Service. However, it is important to note, as a customer service organization the largest strain on the IRS’s ability to serve the public is chronic underfunding. A lack of adequate funds and ongoing continuing resolutions prevent the hiring and training of well qualified personnel to carry out the agency’s mission. If Congress and the Administration truly wish to fulfill this mission, concurrent increased funding is necessary,” Burger continued.

“The IRS facilitates direct communication with the American people to act as the primary source of government revenue. Without the IRS, the rest of the government would struggle to function. It is therefore critical that this agency *not* struggle to function. While we thank lawmakers for their dedication to IRS reform and modernization, we hope they will acknowledge funding disparities which may prevent this important mission from being carried out effectively. The Taxpayer First Act is a step in the right direction and PMA looks forward to working with Congress on the next step,” Burger concluded.

Formed in 1981 by IRS Managers, the Professional Managers Association is a national membership association representing the interests of professional managers, management officials and non-bargaining unit employees in the federal government.

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