

Mahoney Tax Simplification Legislation Provides Protection to Seniors and Families

Mahoney Co-sponsors Legislation on Tax Day
to Simplify the Tax Code

(Washington, D.C.)

- Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16) today
voted for the Taxpayer

Assistance and Simplification Act of 2008, legislation he
co-sponsored which would ease the tax filing process for business and
individuals, especially senior citizens.

The bill simplifies the filing process by strengthening
taxpayer protections from identify theft and tax fraud, closing offshore tax
loopholes for federal contractors, cutting \$37 million in costs by ending the
private collection of federal taxes, and expanding help for low-income
taxpayers.

"Faced

with a worsening economy, the last thing American taxpayers need is an
unnecessarily complicated and burdensome tax filing process," said Congressman
Tim Mahoney. "This critical legislation would simplify the
filing process and save taxpayers over \$37 million, while protecting our
seniors and families from tax fraud and harassment."

Thousands of seniors in Florida receive in-home
care through state and local government programs. Under current law,
seniors are responsible for filling out a burdensome form designating the State
or local government as their agent for employment tax purposes. H.R. 5719
removes this unnecessary step by making the program's administrator liable for
the payment of taxes. By doing so, this legislation not only removes this
complicated burden, it also will assist the IRS in preventing collection action
against our seniors.

The

Taxpayer Assistance and Simplification Act of 2008, HR 5719 would:

Strengthen taxpayer
protections from identity theft and tax fraud by requiring the IRS to
notify taxpayers of suspected identity theft;

- Removes
burden of filing employment taxes from seniors and disabled persons
enrolled in a in-home care government program;

- Make
the administrators of state and local government programs liable for
paying the employment taxes on amounts paid by government programs to

in-home care workers provided to elderly and disabled persons;
Eliminate \$37 million in
costs and stop taxpayer harassment by ending the IRS' use of private debt
collection agencies;
Close offshore tax
loopholes for federal contractors, barring the use of foreign subsidiaries
to evade Social Security and other employment taxes;
Simplify cell phone tax
reporting and expand tax help for low-income taxpayers.

For more
information on the Taxpayer Assistance and Simplification Act, [click here to view
the full text](#) and [click here
to view the legislation's estimated revenue effects](#).

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