

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 8, 2020

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, DC 20220

The Honorable Charles P. Rettig  
Commissioner  
Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Avenue N.W.  
Washington, DC 20224

Dear Secretary Mnuchin and Commissioner Rettig,

We write today to request that you move swiftly to ensure all veterans receiving pension benefits are automatically eligible to receive the individual rebate included in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act [P.L. 116-136]. Although most Americans are automatically eligible for the rebate, the IRS's guidance last week threatens to place unnecessary obstacles to hundreds of thousands of veterans who do not file annual taxes. Veterans mainly relying on pension benefits they earned while serving their country are at risk of having to fill out extra paperwork to receive the rebate. We ask that you coordinate with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ensure that VA beneficiaries who do not file annual taxes are not required to file a supplementary form in order to receive it.

Veterans who rely on benefits that they earned should not be placed at a disadvantage due to unnecessary bureaucratic obstacles. It is clear that congressional intent was to get the individual rebates to all Americans, particularly veterans, as quickly and seamlessly as possible. The VA has the information needed to get these checks to veterans receiving pension benefits who otherwise do not file an annual return, and more must be done to ensure they are able to access them. By requiring these veterans to submit a supplementary form, we fear that some will be left behind. Many veterans are at high-risk of severe and life-threatening symptoms from COVID-19, and older veterans may not be able to access a computer to submit the form if they rely on public computers to access the internet.

While we are encouraged by your moves to ensure that many Social Security beneficiaries automatically receive their rebate, we urge you to go further to ensure our veterans are not left behind. We ask that you immediately move to ensure veterans relying on pension benefits from the VA receive the rebate automatically and without additional paperwork. We look forward to working with you to ensure these veterans are given the fair treatment they deserve.

Sincerely,



Ron Kind (D-WI)  
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly (R-PA)  
Member of Congress