

CONGRESSMAN PETER ROSKAM

SERVING THE SIXTH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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Roskam Introduces Bill to Make IRS Free File Program Permanent

WASHINGTON □ Today, Congressman Peter Roskam (IL-06), Chief Deputy Majority Whip and Member of the Ways & Means Committee, announced legislation to make the IRS Free File Program permanent. The Free File Program provides eligible taxpayers with free online individual income tax preparation and electronic filing services. Under the current program, 70% of taxpayers are eligible for the free preparation services, including lower income and underserved populations. The Free File Program has saved taxpayers roughly \$1 billion and the federal government hundreds of millions of dollars since 2003. Roskam introduced H.R. 2569, the Free File Program Act of 2011, along with Rep. Ron Kind (WI-3).

□ Today I'm pleased to announce legislation that will make permanent a program that actually makes life easier for taxpayers, □ said Congressman Peter Roskam, R-IL. □ The IRS Free File Program is an important partnership with the private sector that offers free tax preparation options, and the program doesn't cost the taxpayer a dime. This is a commonsense solution that Washington should be pursuing. □

□ The Free File program not only gives middle income families an affordable option for completing and filing their taxes but also reaffirms an important public private partnership, □ said Congressman Ron Kind, D-WI. □ By working together with nearly 20 companies to offer this online tax preparation, the federal government has saved hundreds of millions of dollars since 2003. Making this program permanent is responsible to the hardworking families who can benefit from it and is fiscally responsible to all taxpayers. □

The Free File legislation would also continue to provide the free IRS e-fillable form and free e-filing to all taxpayers. Although the IRS Free File program is almost a decade old, popular, and an important element of the IRS □ electronic filing initiative, it could be terminated by the IRS without review and approval by Congress in favor of other electronic filing programs, including programs in which the IRS would control tax preparation and electronic filing services.

RELEVANT STATISTICS:

Nearly 30 Million Americans Will Have Filed Taxes for Free Under The IRS Free File Program. Since the inception of Free File, 27 million taxpayers have taken advantage of this free program, accessible only on [IRS.gov](#). (*E-File, Free File and Other Electronic Options for 2010*, [IRS](#), 01/08/2010)

The Free File Program Has Saved Taxpayers Roughly \$1 billion and the Federal Government Hundreds of Millions of Dollars Since 2003. (*Written Testimony of Douglas Shulman, IRS Commissioner, [Ways & Means Committee](#)*, 03/31/2011)

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