

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

August 19, 2025

The Honorable Scott Bessent
Acting Commissioner
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20224

Dear Secretary Bessent:

It has been brought to our attention that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) office located at 26415 Carl Boyer Drive in Santa Clarita, California, has received a notice of termination and is slated to break its current lease and close to the public on September 30, 2025. After receiving an unofficial notice of closure, the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU) reached out to the IRS for impact reports, financial statements, and other documents explaining why the office must be closed but has not received a response from the agency. We write this letter to raise concerns over the scheduled closure and to receive answers on why the Santa Clarita Post-of-Duty (POD) was specifically identified for termination, given the community needs it meets.

The Santa Clarita POD serves over 740,000 taxpayers in the area, and its closure could hinder local residents' access to quality taxpayer services. The POD offers a variety of services, with employees meeting taxpayers both in the office and in the field to assist with payments, conducting in-person interviews, and providing general assistance with any examinations or collections-related matters.

With no closer POD available to our communities, a closure would create undue hardship. Taxpayers from the Antelope Valley to San Fernando would be forced to commute up to 87 miles to reach offices in Bakersfield, Van Nuys, or Glendale to get help. We're particularly concerned about the effects this will have on elderly, disabled, and low-income individuals who may not be able to travel two to three hours each way in traffic for in-person assistance.

The POD employs 36 residents of Santa Clarita and nearby towns, who would most likely be relocated to the Glendale office in case of a closure. These employees would face significant financial burdens, needing to spend more money on parking costs, gasoline, childcare, eldercare, and, if necessary, relocation and housing. Exacerbating the problem, moving employees to the Glendale office will cause overcrowding, reduce productivity, and negatively impact all employees.

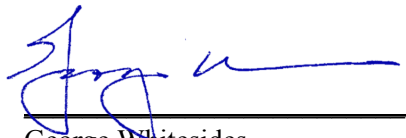
We are concerned about the potential harm the closure will cause our constituents. We request that you immediately provide the following information:

1. What are the costs associated with this closure? What is the cost of breaking the current lease? Would it be more cost-effective to keep the Santa Clarita POD for at least the remainder of the lease? What are the expected financial impacts associated with this closure?

2. The IRS's Taxpayer Bill of Rights includes provisions focused on reducing taxpayer inconvenience, such as the right to quality service, privacy, a fair tax system, and the right to retain representation. Will any of these rights be affected by the closure?
3. What steps will be taken to accommodate employees who are currently at the Santa Clarita POD?
4. Can you provide my office with information regarding what rental cost savings, if any, the IRS would make by moving to Glendale and paying the General Services Administration rent there instead?
5. What impact, if any, will the increased mileage costs (to reimburse IRS staff who will have to travel great distances - in some cases, over 50 miles - to serve the taxpayers) have on the IRS's anticipated savings?

We look forward to your response, to working with you to ensure reliable taxpayer services, and to addressing this issue with the immediacy and attention it deserves.

Sincerely,



George Whitesides
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Luz Rivas
Member of Congress