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March 26, 2021

The Honorable Charles Rettig
Commissioner
Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20224

Dear Commissioner Rettig:

Thank you for your service to our country in your role as IRS Commissioner. As you are aware, the coronavirus pandemic and related economic shutdowns have had a harmful impact on small businesses and workers across America. As our economy recovers, we must support the entrepreneurship and investment that will revitalize our communities and bring people back to work. With that in mind, I write to raise concerns about the IRS's handling of Employer Identification Number (EIN) applications.

As you know, obtaining an EIN is an essential step for starting a new business. An EIN is necessary for opening a bank account, obtaining business licenses, and filing taxes. Given its importance as American families work to build new small businesses and create jobs, I was dismayed to learn through constituent casework that some small businesses are facing extended delays in obtaining an EIN. In some cases, constituents have been told that the IRS could take as long as 90 days to process an EIN request.

These delays hurt the ability of small businesses to open their doors and hire workers just as our economy is beginning to recover. Failing to address this issue will dampen new business formation and slow investment and hiring.

I ask that you work expeditiously to address these extended EIN processing times. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bryan Steil". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Bryan Steil