

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 3, 2008

Dear Colleague,

We have learned from the IRS that millions of disabled veterans and seniors who are eligible for the Economic Stimulus Payment (ESP) Congress approved in February of this year have not yet filed a tax return and thus are in danger of missing out on the rebate. As leaders of the Senate Finance, Veterans' Affairs, and Aging Committees, we are writing to encourage you to help alert eligible veterans and seniors in your state to the rebate, which they have until October 15, 2008 to claim.

Millions of senior citizens and disabled veterans who are eligible for the ESP do not earn enough to be required to file an income tax return. Significant numbers of these households may not know about the ESP and the need to file a tax return to claim it. Others may be aware of the ESP but mistakenly think that its filing deadline was April 15 rather than October 15.

We are working with the IRS, the Social Security Administration, and the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that effective outreach and education activities continue this summer and fall. But each senator can play a crucial complementary role by publicizing the availability of the ESP and the ways in which eligible seniors and veterans can obtain it.

We have attached a list of activities that Members can engage in to promote the ESP to eligible households in your state. Attached is a basic flyer (in English and Spanish) that you can use as well. (Please note the blank space at the bottom where you can print your name or district office information.) Copies of these flyers can be obtained by contacting the Finance, Aging or Veterans' Affairs Committees' offices.

We hope you will join us in helping publicize the availability of the ESP, which will not only help needy households during these difficult economic times but also stimulate the overall economy. It would be shameful if millions of disabled veterans and seniors missed out simply because they were unaware of the payment or how to claim it.

If you have questions or would like additional copies of the materials, please contact Jeff Cruz with the Committee on Aging majority staff at 224-5364, Kara Getz with the Committee on Aging minority staff at 224-5364 or Mary Baker with the Finance Committee at 224-4515.

Sincerely,



Max Baucus
Chairman
Committee on Finance



Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance



Herb Kohl
Chairman
Committee on Aging



Gordon H. Smith
Ranking Member
Committee on Aging



Daniel K. Akaka
Chairman
Committee on Veterans' Affairs



Richard Burr
Ranking Member
Committee on Veterans' Affairs