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**NSA: The IRS Must Continue to Function**

Alexandria, VA, January 11, 2019 — Due to the partial shutdown of the Federal government on December 22, 2019, the IRS has been forced to operate with a reduced staff. The [National Society of Accountants](http://www.nsacct.org) (NSA) is concerned that the diminished resources at the Internal Revenue Service will negatively impact taxpayers and tax preparers during tax season and beyond.

“The National Society of Accountants proposed the Tax Practitioner’s Bill of Rights as a response to the deep budget cuts the IRS faced in 2015,” NSA CEO John Rice explained. “The topics addressed in the Tax Practitioner’s Bill of Rights, like the right to quality service, are equally applicable now… perhaps even more pertinent during the partial shutdown.”

The National Society of Accountants believes that the IRS must continue to function, and be adequately funded to do so, at the risk of consequences beyond delayed tax refunds. It is possible that the IRS will face a ripple effect from the backlog of returns and refunds, impaired customer service, and delayed audits which will negatively impact business-related, and amended return filings later in 2019.

“Difficulties caused by the shutdown are not just difficulties for taxpayers, but for the tax professionals who serve them as well,” added Rice. “Our society exists to serve the interests of the ‘main street practitioner’ and it is incumbent upon us to communicate their concerns.”

A copy of the National Society of Accountants Tax Practitioner’s Bill of Rights can be downloaded [here](https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/NSACCT/725010a8-142f-4092-8b5d-077c2618c728/UploadedImages/taxpro-bill-of-rights-2.png).

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NSA represents more than 7,000 members who provide accounting, auditing, tax preparation, financial and estate planning, and management services to thousands of individuals and business clients across the nation. Most members are sole practitioners or partners in small- to medium- size accounting firms. NSA protects the public by requiring its members to adhere to a strict code of ethics. For more information, visit <www.nsacct.org>.