HR 531

Tax Crimes and Identity Theft Prevention Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)
Chamber: House
Policy Area: Taxation
Introduced: Feb 6, 2013
Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, And Investigations.
Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, And Investigations. (Feb 28, 2013)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/531

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]
Party: Democratic • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Nugent, Richard B. [R-FL-11]	R · FL		Feb 6, 2013
Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-21]	D · FL		Feb 28, 2013
Rep. Butterfield, G. K. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Apr 25, 2013
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Apr 25, 2013
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Apr 25, 2013
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		May 23, 2013
Rep. Ross, Dennis A. [R-FL-15]	R · FL		May 23, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 28, 2013
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 6, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Taxation

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Feb 6, 2013)

Tax Crimes and Identity Theft Prevention Act - Requires the Secretary of the Treasury to take necessary action to correct a tax return or tax information affected by the misuse of a taxpayer's identity within 90 days after receiving notice of such misuse from the taxpayer.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to: (1) authorize the Secretary to disclose tax return information to federal, state, and local law enforcement personnel who are personally and directly engaged in the investigation of identity theft; (2) impose a fine and/or prison term on any person who knowingly or willfully misappropriates another person's tax identification number; (3) increase the civil and criminal penalties for improper disclosure or use of tax information by tax return preparers; and (4) require the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to report to Congress on the number of reported tax fraud cases and on actions taken in response to such reports.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) implement an identity theft tax fraud prevention program that provides for a unique personal identification number (PIN) on tax returns; (2) establish a fraudulent tax refund prevention program that adds additional triggers to the refund database to identify potentially fraudulent tax refunds; and (3) review whether current federal tax law prevents the effective enforcement of local, state, and federal identity theft statutes.

Authorizes the Commissioner to transfer appropriated funds to be used solely to prevent and resolve potential tax fraud cases.

Directs the Commissioner to establish in the Criminal Investigation Division of the IRS the position of Local Law Enforcement Liaison to coordinate the investigation of tax fraud with state and local law enforcement agencies.

Directs the Comptroller General to study and report on the role of prepaid debit cards and commercial tax preparation software in facilitating fraudulent tax returns through identity theft.

Prohibits the Secretary of Commerce from disclosing information contained on the Death Master File relating to a deceased individual to persons who are not certified to access such information.

Authorizes the Attorney General to award grants to state and local law enforcement agencies for the investigation and prosecution of tax crimes.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 28, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, And Investigations.
- **Feb 6, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 6, 2013:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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