

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0533

February 8, 2017

John Koskinen
Commissioner
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224

Dear Commissioner Koskinen:

Thank you for your public service. Based on the information I have received, I am writing to you in opposition to the planned closure of the Internal Revenue Service office located in the City of El Segundo. This office provides critical services to the residents in western Los Angeles County that live between the San Fernando Valley and the Los Angeles Harbor.

It is my understanding that the IRS has decided to close the El Segundo office and move approximately 120 IRS staff currently stationed there to the Long Beach Federal Building. In your letter dated July 28, 2016, you stated that the IRS would save \$1 million by not renewing the commercial lease of the El Segundo location and moving staff to Long Beach. This office currently serves residents of my district which stretches from Malibu to the community of Rancho Palos Verdes. Given the effect the move will have on residents of my district, I am requesting the following information:

- Has the IRS explored other options to the closure of the El Segundo office, including relocating the office elsewhere within western Los Angeles County to reduce rental costs? If so, why were those other options rejected?
- Can you provide my office with the calculations showing how, exactly, the proposed move would save the IRS \$1 million?
- Can you provide my office with information regarding what rental cost savings, if any, the IRS would make by moving to Long Beach and paying the General Services Administration rent there instead?
- 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 of western Los Angeles County) have on the IRS's anticipated savings?
- Please provide the IRS's cost-benefit analysis for the proposed closure of the El Segundo office, and indicate whether or not that analysis factors in the increased burdens on staff

and taxpayers, including those who are low-income and dependent on public transportation, who would have to travel longer distances as a result of the move.

Until the Internal Revenue Service can substantiate that the closure of the El Segundo office is necessary, I must oppose the decision to relocate staff from the El Segundo IRS office to the Long Beach Federal Building. To prove such a move is necessary, the IRS must first research whether there are viable alternatives that would save the IRS money, while not unduly burdening the residents and taxpayers of western Los Angeles County. Without that inquiry and investigation, the IRS's decision to close the El Segundo office and move staff to Long Beach is arbitrary and capricious.

Thank you for your time regarding this matter. I look forward to hearing the IRS's response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ted W. Lieu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress