

  
(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To provide debt and tax transparency to taxpayers.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan introduced the following bill; which was referred  
to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To provide debt and tax transparency to taxpayers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Debt and  
5 Taxation Transparency Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
8 ings:

1 (1) United States taxpayers work on average al-  
2 most 3 months of every year to pay for the oper-  
3 ations of the Federal Government.

4 (2) United States taxpayers spent on average  
5 21 percent of their total income on Federal taxes in  
6 2015.

7 (3) In 2015, United States taxpayers spent  
8 more on taxes than on food, clothing, and housing  
9 combined.

10 (4) The Federal Government spent the equiva-  
11 lent of more than \$29,800 per United States house-  
12 hold in 2015, adding nearly \$4,200 per household to  
13 the Federal deficit.

14 (5) Each household's share of the national debt,  
15 as of January 2016, exceeds \$152,000.

16 (6) Publically held debt is 74 percent of the  
17 gross domestic product, a level not seen since World  
18 War II.

19 (7) Mandatory spending is growing at a faster  
20 rate than the economy.

21 (8) Federal deficits are projected to exceed \$1  
22 trillion by 2022.

23 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

24 (1) to bring more transparency to the tax-and-  
25 spend habit of the Federal Government;

1           (2) to provide for better accountability in the  
2       Federal budget and appropriations process; and

3           (3) to increase the participation of United  
4       States citizens in their government.

5 **SEC. 3. A TAXPAYER FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO TAX-**  
6                                   **PAYERS.**

7       (a) STATEMENTS INITIALLY PROVIDED UPON RE-  
8       QUEST.—During the period beginning on October 1, 2017,  
9       and ending on the first date that information is made  
10      available under subsection (b), the Secretary of the Treas-  
11      ury (or the Secretary’s delegate) shall provide to each eli-  
12      gible individual, upon the request of such individual, a  
13      “taxpayer account statement” for such individual.

14      (b) INCLUSION IN INSTRUCTIONS FOR INCOME TAX  
15      RETURNS.—In the case of individual income tax returns  
16      for taxable years beginning in calendar years after 2019,  
17      the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary’s delegate)  
18      shall include a taxpayer account statement containing the  
19      information required under subsection (c) in the instruc-  
20      tions for such tax returns.

21      (c) TAXPAYER ACCOUNT STATEMENT.—The tax-  
22      payer account statement referred to in this section shall  
23      include—

1 (1) a summary of the most recent Financial Re-  
2 port of the United States Government, including the  
3 Statement of Long Term Fiscal Projections;

4 (2) a calculation by the Secretary of the Treas-  
5 ury of the eligible individual's share of the total obli-  
6 gations of the Federal Government, including those  
7 incurred in Medicare, Social Security, other civilian  
8 and military retirement benefit programs, publicly-  
9 held debt, and any other liabilities and expenses, as  
10 reported by the most recent Financial Report of the  
11 United States Government; and

12 (3) a 30-year calculation of the proportional in-  
13 crease in the Federal income tax rates, as estab-  
14 lished under chapter 1 of subtitle A of the Internal  
15 Revenue Code of 1986, necessary to entirely finance  
16 the current fiscal path of the Federal Government,  
17 assuming no changes in current fiscal policy and as-  
18 suming no budget deficit.

19 (d) ADDITIONAL CALCULATION.—Not later than 5  
20 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
21 retary shall also provide an estimate of the marginal tax  
22 rate and the income and payroll tax liability of the indi-  
23 vidual under the assumptions stated under subsection  
24 (c)(3).

1 (e) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—For purposes of this  
2 section, the term “eligible individual” means an individual  
3 who—

4 (1) has a valid social security number issued by  
5 the Social Security Administration;

6 (2) received a Form W-2 in the previous tax-  
7 able year; and

8 (3) has filed a return of tax in any previous  
9 taxable year.

10 (f) NOTICE.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall, to  
11 the maximum extent practicable, take such steps as are  
12 necessary to assure that eligible individuals are informed  
13 of the availability of the statement required under sub-  
14 section (a).

15 (g) AVAILABILITY THROUGH ELECTRONIC FILING  
16 SERVICES.—It is the sense of the Congress that the Sec-  
17 retary of the Treasury (or the Secretary’s delegate) should  
18 partner with electronic tax filing services to make the tax-  
19 payer account statement available when an eligible indi-  
20 vidual elects to file their taxes online.