

Iowa GOP Voters Express Strong Opposition to Imminent Government-Run Tax Prep System

In new TPA survey, 82% of Iowa GOP voters would be unlikely to vote for a presidential candidate who supports a Direct File tax prep system

WASHINGTON D.C. – With the Iowa caucuses around the corner, the Taxpayers Protection Alliance (TPA) released a new survey showing Iowa GOP Presidential Primary voters overwhelmingly oppose the creation of a government-run tax prep system, also known as Direct File. In fact, 9-in-10 Iowa Republicans polled said that they do not trust a government-run tax preparation system, while 79% would not utilize this system if it did not prepare all their taxes in one place.

In January 2024, the IRS is expected to launch a pilot program – without congressional authorization – that would make the agency the tax assessor, collector, preparer, and enforcer. The poll shows that 86% of Iowa GOP voters are opposed to Governor Kim Reynolds (R-IA) partnering with the federal government on this program in the future. Additionally, 83% of Iowa Republicans also distrust the IRS' ability to protect their private data and tax information.

The Taxpayers Protection Alliance's (TPA) President, **David Williams**, offered the following comment:

"These results confirm what TPA has been saying since day one and what should be obvious by now: voters do not trust or want the IRS to act as both tax preparer and processor or have even greater access to their sensitive financial data. Direct File is just another example of the IRS' overreach into Americans' lives. TPA calls on all GOP presidential candidates to denounce Direct File and pledge to end this misguided, wasteful use of taxpayer dollars and expansion of IRS power if elected."

Nearly all Iowa GOP voters oppose taxpayer dollars being used to build out an IRS-run system. Nearly 2-in-5 voters (38%) said they'd prefer to see those funds used to simplify the tax code, while 15% would like to see the IRS update their software and security.

The survey was conducted December 6 through December 9, 2023, with 800 likely 2024 Republican Primary Election voters. The survey results and its key findings memo can be found [here](#).

TPA conducted a similar [survey in 2022](#) that found 75% of voters nationwide do not support giving the IRS new authority to prepare and file tax returns on behalf of millions of taxpayers.

TPA will also be releasing poll data from South Carolina and Nevada GOP primary voters in early 2024.

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Taxpayers Protection Alliance (TPA) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to educating the public through the research, analysis and dissemination of information on the government's effects on the economy.