CPA

Practice **Advisor**

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to prepare and file their individual income tax return beginning in tax year 2023.

Jul. 15, 2022

Filing Status Check only one box.	Single Married filing jointly If you checked the MFS box, enter the new person is a child but not your dependent	name of				. —	, ,	_	fying widow(er) (QW name if the qualifyin	
Your first name and middle initial Last			ast name						ial security number	
If joint return, spouse's first name and middle initial Last			ast name					Spouse's	social security numb	
Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see instruc				tructions. Apt. r					Presidential Election Campaig Check here if you, or your	
City, town, or post office. If you have a foreign address, also complete spaces below. State ZIP code						spouse if filing jointly, want \$3 to go to this fund. Checking a box below will not change				
Foreign country name			Foreign province/state/county Foreign				Foreign postal code			
At any time duri	ing 2021, did you receive, sell, exchange	, or othe	erwise di	spose	of any f	inancial interest in	n any virtual curre	ncy?	Yes No	
Standard Deduction	Someone can claim: You as a de Spouse itemizes on a separate return		_		,	as a dependent ien				
Age/Blindness	You: Were born before January 2, 1	1957 [Are b	lind	Spou	se: Was bor	n before January	2, 1957	Is blind	
Dependents If more than four dependents,	(see instructions): (1) First name Last name		(2) Social security number			(3) Relationshi to you		(4) ✓ if qualifies for (see instruction Child tax credit Credit for other		
dependents,			-				 	-		
see instructions and check										

By Laura Weiss, CQ-Roll Call (via TNS).

U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren is leading fellow Democrats in renewing a push for the IRS to create its own free tax-filing services and move away from its current private partnership, whose services only a slim portion of taxpayers use.

Warren, D- Mass., put forward a bill that would mandate the IRS create its own free, online program for preparing and filing tax returns and expand taxpayers' access to

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The IRS would have to create a program for taxpayers to securely download thirdparty-provided return information and IRS-held data related to their individual tax bills.

The bill would require a program by March 1, 2023, allowing taxpayers who don't have to file tax returns to claim refundable tax credits. The provision aims to expand a sign-up tool for the child tax credit to nonfilers who can access other tax benefits like the earned income tax credit, which is open to low-income workers.

The measure would also bar the Treasury secretary from entering into any new agreements that would restrict the federal government's right to provide services or software for preparing and filing taxes.

A fact sheet from the bill's sponsors points to problems with the IRS Free File program, which currently aims to offer free tax preparation to 70% of taxpayers by partnering with private tax preparing firms. The lawmakers argued that program is underused, often confuses taxpayers into paying for services and fails to adequately protect taxpayer data. In the last two years, major online tax platforms H&R Block and Intuit's TurboTax withdrew from the program.

Only 2.8% of all individual tax returns filed in fiscal 2021 were submitted through the Free File program, according to IRS data.

The bill picked up co-sponsors since its last introduction in 2019 and now has 22 Democratic senators signed on.

Warren has sought to tie the issue to Democrats' push for a budget reconciliation bill. Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer, D- N.Y., and Sen. Joe Manchin III, D-W.Va., are in talks in the hopes of agreeing to a package broadly including pieces to lower prescription drug costs, incentivize clean energy production and increase taxes on the wealthy and corporations.

The latest Senate version of the legislation included about \$80 billion over a decade

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tax returns, but agreed the IRS would take up the issue when it's "adequately resourced."

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