

TaxNewsFlash

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Finance Committee votes for Rettig to be next IRS Commissioner

The U.S. Senate Finance Committee today voted (14-13) to advance the nomination of Charles Rettig to be the new Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Today's vote clears the way for advice and consent by the full Senate.

In other action, Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and ranking member Ron Wyden (D-OR) today introduced an IRS reform bill (S. 3246). According to a congressional [press release](#), the legislation—the *Taxpayer First Act of 2018*—is based on two bills (S. 3156 and S. 3157) that passed the Finance Committee unanimously in 2016 in the 114th Congress and aims to assist the agency by:

- Increasing taxpayer protections and electronic filing
- Enhancing whistleblower protections
- Reforming policies concerning IRS employees
- Increasing scrutiny of IRS audit criteria
- Supporting prevention of identity theft and tax refund fraud

The Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) released a technical explanation of the bill: [JCX-65-18](#)

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