



April 13, 2005

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
703 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

Dear Senator Bingaman:

As president of the National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA), I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you on the introduction of legislation to enroll commercial tax preparers and to express our unqualified endorsement. NAEA is the premier association representing the interests of the 40,000 enrolled agents across the country. Enrolled agents are the only practitioners to whom the IRS currently attests to the competency and ethical behavior.

In drafting your legislation, you have done an admirable job of balancing the interests of all parties. Most importantly, the legislation will increase the integrity of the tax system and protect taxpayers from the unscrupulous. By giving the Office of Professional Responsibility the resources it needs to enforce this legislation and to promote all practitioners qualified to practice before the Department of Treasury, your legislation will make major strides toward cleaning up and raising the standards of the commercial tax preparation industry.

NAEA's members look forward to supporting your efforts to enact this legislation. We thank you and your staff for allowing us to work with you as you drafted your bill. We especially would like to note the extraordinary efforts of Anita Horn Rizek on the Finance Committee staff.

Once again, thank you and good luck.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Faye Touchet EA". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Faye Touchet, EA
President