FW:

From: Ellen Nissenbaum <nissenbaum@cbpp.org>
To: "Sarin, Natasha" <natasha.sarin@treasury.gov>
Date: Tue, 09 Nov 2021 11:12:14 -0500

** **Caution:** External email. Pay attention to suspicious links and attachments. Send suspicious email to suspect@treasury.gov **

Your eyes only. You're sending me some quotes, and what you want re a state person to comment on how the IRS $ would help? tx

---

From: Chuck Marr <marr@cbpp.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 8:25 AM
To: Ellen Nissenbaum <nissenbaum@cbpp.org>; Joel Friedman <friedman@cbpp.org>; Sharon Parrott <sparrott@cbpp.org>; Shannon Buckingham <sbuckingham@cbpp.org>; Michael Leachman <leachman@cbpp.org>
Cc: Samantha Jacoby <Sjacoby@cbpp.org>
Subject: RE:

Yes – we intend to – Samantha is drafting a blog

It will defend the score plus note if critics, such as the GOP are so concerned about tax gap revenue then they should add the info reporting proposal for some fiscal insurance

---

From: Ellen Nissenbaum <nissenbaum@cbpp.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 7:17 AM
To: Chuck Marr <marr@cbpp.org>; Joel Friedman <friedman@cbpp.org>; Sharon Parrott <sparrott@cbpp.org>; Shannon Buckingham <sbuckingham@cbpp.org>; Michael Leachman <leachman@cbpp.org>
Subject:

Natasha Sarin called last night. They are seeing Repubs shift their attacks from the IRS enforcement to the IRS money. Treasury is worried Repubs will attack the OTA estimate and point to the forthcoming lower estimate of savings when the CBO score is out. Natasha noted that Repubs like Portman and others during BIF negotiations argued that CBO was too conservative in its estimates, and Treasury folks wondered if we might put something out (eg. A blog or tweet thread) when the CBO scores comes out pointing to the Repubs' statements and offering defense of OTA as much as we can. They will send quotes.
Also wants some state-related help, Michael, that I'll fill you in on later – will give you a call.

Thoughts?
Ellen

Ellen Nissenbaum
Senior Vice President for Government Affairs
CBPP
(202)408-1080
(202(b)(6) (cell)

RE:

From: Ellen Nissenbaum <nissenbaum@cbpp.org>
To: "Sarin, Natasha" <natasha.sarin@treasury.gov>
Cc: Chuck Marr <marr@cbpp.org>, Samantha Jacoby <sjacoby@cbpp.org>
Date: Tue, 09 Nov 2021 12:23:37 -0500

** **Caution:** External email. Pay attention to suspicious links and attachments. Send suspicious email to suspect@treasury.gov **

+ Chuck and Samantha who is working on our blog.
Tx
Ellen

From: Natasha.Sarin@treasury.gov <Natasha.Sarin@treasury.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 12:13 PM
To: Ellen Nissenbaum <nissenbaum@cbpp.org>
Subject: RE:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Ellen,

Yes, I'll send you quotes, we are putting together a document for you now. Here is a sampling from Romney and Portman:

- The first way that can't be scored is the plan to raise money from beefed up IRS enforcement. The bipartisan group of 10 senators, of which Romney is a part, has estimated that for $40 billion of investment in going after those who do not pay taxes, that would net $100 billion in return. Romney said the CBO has not traditionally issued an official "score" on such matters, which could spell danger for Republicans who are already wary of beefing up a federal agency which has proved politically controversial in the past. "The CBO won't score that because they say, 'Well, the government's entitled to all of its tax revenue, so you can't get a score for actually getting more of it," Romney told reporters. "Generally, the CBO's assessment of tax gaps is that they do not rely on them for scoring purposes and I would presume that would be the case here. But we recognize that there were some things that we saw as a source of revenue that the CBO might not be able to score." Democrats land on $3.5 trillion budget agreement - ABC News (go.com)

- "The tax gap is a good example. ... CBO says all these taxes were supposed to be collected, so we're not going to give you credit, which is I think wrong. So the CBO may not be as fulsome as it should be," Portman said. Senate negotiators scramble to defang GOP criticism | TheHill

On a state person, I think another argument to make that they can offer is to support for tax gap efforts because of spillovers on state budgets, states will collect more revenue when we clamp down on evasion, can lead to stronger fiscal positions, etc.

THANK YOU for all you are doing here, and in general.

All best wishes,

Natasha