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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1201

May 6, 2002

Roger Morris
478 Bear Track Lane
Athol, ID 83801-9697

Dear Roger,

Thank you for contacting me with your concerns about the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) failure to attend a hearing on February 27, 2002 concerning its constitutionality. I appreciate hearing from you.

I agree with you that every federal agency, paid for with tax dollars, must make every effort to attend public events where their presence is requested. While most people, including you and I, believe the IRS must be made accountable to taxpayers or be eliminated, that does not excuse the agency's failure to defend itself. "Government of the people, by the people, for the people", as Lincoln said, must remain open to contact and the inputs of men and women from throughout the country.

I am disappointed that the IRS failed to attend the hearing on February 27, 2002 and have expressed my concerns to my colleague, Chairman Mike Oxley of the House Financial Services Committee, as well as to the IRS. As the House considers various measures affecting the IRS I will keep your concerns, and the failure of the IRS to abide its promises, in mind.

Thank you once again for contacting me.

As always, "Idaho - Esto Perpetua"

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Butch".

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Member of Congress

CLO/mm