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FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
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FIFTH DISTRICT, MISSOURI

COMMISSION ON SECURITY  
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE  
(HELSINKI COMMISSION)  
[HTTPS://CLEAVER.HOUSE.GOV](https://cleaver.house.gov)

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

February 18, 2025

The Honorable Douglas O'Donnell  
Acting Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20224

Dear Acting Commissioner O'Donnell,

I write today to express great concern and outrage about reports that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is imminently planning to lay off a vast number of workers in the middle of tax season as an effort to downsize the federal workforce. Preliminary reports suggest that thousands of workers could lose their jobs, with much of that impact felt in the Kansas City region.<sup>1</sup>

As the Congressman representing Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, I have had the distinct pleasure to represent many of the fine employees who work at the IRS. I know that their dedication to their roles is of great importance to this nation. I am concerned on a variety of fronts, from the impact that these layoffs will have on the workers directly affected, to the morale impact it will have on other employees at the IRS, and, importantly, to the impact that it will inevitably have on the American taxpayers who rely on the services provided by these employees each tax season and throughout the year.

I am deeply concerned that these cuts are happening with little regard to the human toll or the ability for the IRS to continue to meet its legally mandated functions during the busiest time of the year for the agency. I strongly implore that any plans for layoffs be immediately halted and seek understanding from your office about the potential impacts before any such layoffs proceed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emanuel Cleaver".

Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.kansascity.com/news/politics-government/article300532359.html>