From Our Constituent Services' Desk...

A major part of the CARES Act, passed by Congress in March, was creating direct payments to qualified individuals to be processed through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The Economic Impact Payment (EIP), also known as the "stimulus" payment was initially paid by direct deposit. It is now also being issued through check and prepaid debit card.

The IRS has been encouraging people to update their banking and contact information on the "<u>Get My Payment</u>" section of the IRS website. Additional assistance is now available by calling the IRS at 800-919-9835.

"To help provide additional assistance, the IRS will begin staffing a special phone line for taxpayers with questions about Economic Impact Payments (EIP). That number is 800-919-9835, which is the number reflected on the notice mailed to taxpayers who receive an EIP. We believe this phone line will help address some of the general questions people have about the EIPs."

For more information on the prepaid debit cards being issued by the IRS, please refer to the official May 18, 2020, <u>IRS press release</u> located on Congressman Loudermilk's website. The IRS states:

"WASHINGTON— This week, Treasury and the IRS are starting to send nearly 4 million Economic Impact Payments (EIPs) by prepaid debit card, instead of by paper check. EIP Card recipients can make purchases, get cash from in-network ATMs, and transfer funds to their personal bank account without incurring any fees. They can also check their card balance online, by mobile app, or by phone without incurring fees. The EIP Card can be used online, at ATMs, or at any retail location where Visa is accepted. This free, prepaid card also provides consumer protections available to traditional bank account owners, including protections against fraud, loss, and other errors."

Congressman Loudermilk's Constituent Services representatives are happy to announce we can now inquire to the IRS directly on an individual's Economic Impact Payment status. If you have not obtained information from the IRS website or by phone, please complete our <u>IRS</u> Privacy Release Form.

Once the form is returned, you will be contacted by the Constituent Services representative assigned to your inquiry. Please note, we are anticipating a high volume of requests regarding this issue, and we are asking for your patience as we work to assist you as quickly as possible.

If you have a specific problem with the Internal Revenue Service, please contact our office at caseworkga11@mail.house.gov or 770-429-1776. We look forward to serving you, should you need our assistance.