

AMERICAN PAYROLL ASSOCIATION

September 5, 2018

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Internal Revenue Service

Re: Value of Monthly IRS Payroll Industry Conference Calls

Dear Joe and Scott:

The American Payroll Association (APA) is pleased to respond to your request for information on the value of the Payroll Industry Conference Calls the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) offers to payroll professionals each month. These calls, which began more than eight years ago, are important to APA and its members for the following reasons:

- The content is provided directly by the IRS, U.S. Department of the Treasury, and invited representatives from the Social Security Administration. By hearing directly from the agencies, the calls provide a reliable resource for payroll professionals who want to understand tax withholding and information reporting. In addition, this allows APA staff to publish accurate information, distributing the content to an even wider audience.
- The topics are of specific interest to payroll professionals, allowing them to focus on the considerations most relevant to payroll management. This means the calls are efficient and relevant to both payroll professionals and the IRS.
- Payroll professionals can ask questions about regulations, guidance, forms and publications, special projects, and pending changes in a timely manner. This allows participants to better understand requirements and apply them to their specific processes and procedures, which leads to increased compliance.
- Participants can plan ahead for pending changes. This often leads to cost savings for employers. When agency presenters describe pending changes, payroll professionals get a head start on adjusting their processes and procedures. This is important to achieving and maintaining full compliance. These discussions are especially valuable after enactment of significant legislation affecting payroll, such as the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act and the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

- APA believes that these conference calls provide a valuable return on investment for the IRS. Agency data indicates that wage withholding and employer taxes account for more than 70% of all federal taxes collected. Therefore, through the calls, the IRS is able to outreach and provide guidance to critical stakeholders in the payroll industry.

APA appreciates your work in organizing these calls and the willingness of agency presenters to share their knowledge and projects with payroll professionals. We believe the calls increase compliance, understanding, and cooperation between the agencies and employers. APA hopes that the IRS will continue to offer these conference calls each month.

Sincerely,



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