EXHIBIT L
Daniel Werfel  
Acting Commissioner  
Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20224  

Dear Commissioner Werfel:

We are writing to express our serious concerns regarding reports that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) permitted up to 100,000 Social Security numbers to be openly posted on government websites accessible to the public. Reports indicate that it wasn’t until your agency was alerted earlier this month to the fact that a significant number of Social Security numbers were posted on IRS.gov that your agency removed public Web access to the records in question.

The American people are justifiably troubled by this further breach in privacy by your agency, based on the numerous concerns raised about the IRS over the past several weeks. These concerns form a consistent and disturbing pattern of mismanagement and unprofessionalism that is unbecoming of federal officials — especially those who are trusted to handle the sensitive, personal information of Americans. As such, we are seeking a full and accurate accounting of the exact circumstances surrounding the recent divulgence of Social Security numbers from individuals involved with Section 527 political organizations. We ask that you respond to the following questions:

- Who and what department within the IRS is responsible for maintaining the Section 527 database?

- What is the procedure for documenting and publishing the forms included in the database?

- It is our understanding that the IRS has taken the position that by law it cannot remove sensitive personal information before making it publicly available. How is this reconciled with the official statement of the Office of Management and Budget, which states: “As is required by the Privacy Act, the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA), and other laws and policies, each agency must take appropriate steps necessary to protect personal information from unauthorized use, access, disclosure or sharing” (Office of Management and Budget, M-05-08, Designation of Senior Agency Officials for Privacy).
• Is there a policy in place to address the situation when Social Security numbers are improperly disclosed on public filings? If not, will a policy be created in light of this situation? If so, will that policy be formulated by the IRS, or will another branch of government’s oversight personnel be involved?

• Will the IRS be taking any actions to protect those individuals whose information was leaked? What is the potential risk for donors whose information was leaked, and will they be contacted regarding this issue? What recommendations would the IRS make for those individuals now at risk to actively protect themselves from identity theft or other types of fraud?

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Tom Latham
Marsha Blackburn
Rich Nugent
Lee Terry
Dave Loebbeck
Andy Harris

Pete Sessions
Gregg Harper
Virginia Foxx
John Kline
Jim Bridenstine
Peter King
Jack Kingston
Chris Collins
Michael Turner
Leonard Lance
Markwayne Mullin
Gus Bilirakis
Steve Stivers
Steve King
Mike Simpson
Ron Kind
Mario Diaz-Balart
Billy Long
Steve Womack
Cory Gardner
Keith Rothfus
Matt Salmon
Austin Scott
Phil Gingrey