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**From:** Williams Catherine M  
**Sent:** Friday, August 31, 2012 1:03 PM  
**To:** Kiser Ross T; Smith Kevin E  
**Cc:** Glenn James E; Barre Catherine M; Norton William G Jr  
**Subject:** Call from House Committee on Govt. Oversight and Reform re: 501c4 organizations - wants a copy of document  
**Attachments:** SecureZIP Attachments.zip  
**Importance:** High

There was a call from **Minority Staffer** **Phone #** stating that they are about to launch an investigation similar to the one Launched by Cong. Welch's office (see the attached incoming letter and final response pulled from etrak case# 2012-31070). He wants a copy of the 501c4 worksheet that these types of organizations are sent to fill out. (he summarizes it as a self-clearance document).

Can one of you call call him find the form he references and call him back? I'm copying Jim, Cathy and Bill since it's related to our hot topic, 501c4

**Catherine M. Williams**  
Legislative Affairs Division  
phone  
fax

PETER WELCH  
AT-LARGE, VERMONT

1404 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4501  
202-225-4115

DISTRICT:  
30 MAIN STREET  
3RD FLOOR, SUITE 350  
BURLINGTON, VT 05401  
(802) 652-2450  
(888) 605-7270

CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
COMMITTEE ON  
OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT  
REFORM

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4501**

March 28, 2012

The Honorable Douglas Shulman,  
Commissioner  
Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20224

**RECEIVED**

Received by the  
Commissioner's Correspondence  
Office

APR 09 2012

APR 06 2012

CONG. CORR. BR  
CL:LA

Dear Commissioner Shulman:

We write to urge the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to investigate whether any groups qualifying as social welfare organizations under section 501(c)(4) of the federal tax code are improperly engaged in political campaign activity.

Congress created a tax break for nonprofit social welfare organizations because communities across our country benefit greatly from their important work. The purpose of 501 (c)(4) organizations is to increase civic engagement and foster social improvements.

IRS regulations state that an organization is operated for the promotion of social welfare "if it is primarily engaged in promoting in some way the common good and general welfare of the people of a community." The regulations further state that the "promotion of social welfare does not include direct or indirect participation or intervention in political campaigns on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office." In other words, activities that promote social welfare do not include political campaign activities. Thus, as stated in IRS training materials, "an organization exempt under section 501(c)(4) may engage in political campaign activities if those activities are not the organization's primary activity."

In light of recent reports about the political activities of certain social welfare organizations, we respectfully request that the IRS review these organizations and take appropriate actions to ensure that they are in full compliance with all federal tax laws. We urge you to investigate and stop any abuse of the federal tax laws by groups whose primary activity and true mission are to influence the outcome of federal elections.

Sincerely,



PETER WELCH  
Member of Congress

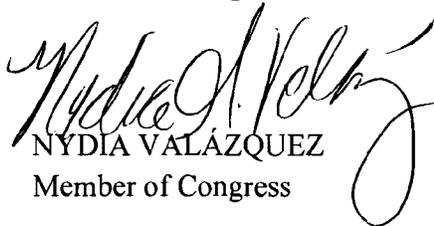


BRUCE BRALEY  
Member of Congress

  
JOE COURTNEY  
Member of Congress

  
LLOYD DOGGETT  
Member of Congress

  
SAM FARR  
Member of Congress

  
NYDIA VALÁZQUEZ  
Member of Congress

  
EARL BLUMENAUER  
Member of Congress

  
DAVID CICILLINE  
Member of Congress

  
JOHN CONYERS  
Member of Congress

  
KEITH ELLISON  
Member of Congress

  
TED DEUTCH  
Member of Congress

  
ANNA ESHOO  
Member of Congress

  
LUIS GUTIERREZ  
Member of Congress

  
GARY ACKERMAN  
Member of Congress

  
MICHAEL E. CAPUANO  
Member of Congress

  
STEVE COHEN  
Member of Congress

  
DONNA EDWARDS  
Member of Congress

  
BOB FILNER  
Member of Congress

George Miller

GEORGE MILLER  
Member of Congress

Raúl M. Grijalva

RAÚL GRIJALVA  
Member of Congress

Alcee Hastings

ALCEE HASTINGS  
Member of Congress

Maurice Hinchey

MAURICE HINCHEY  
Member of Congress

Jesse Jackson Jr

JESSE JACKSON JR  
Member of Congress

Henry Johnson

HENRY JOHNSON  
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton

ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON  
Member of Congress

Charles Rangel

CHARLES RANGEL  
Member of Congress

John Sarbanes

JOHN SARBANES  
Member of Congress

Louise M. Slaughter

LOUISE SLAUGHTER  
Member of Congress

Jackie Speier

JACKIE SPEIER  
Member of Congress

Chris Van Hollen

CHRIS VAN HOLLEN  
Member of Congress

Henry Waxman

HENRY WAXMAN  
Member of Congress

John Yarmouth

JOHN YARMOUTH  
Member of Congress

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**From:** Paz Holly O  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2013 3:53 PM  
**To:** Megosh Andy  
**Subject:** Fw: House Oversight Committee Minority Staff

Can you please have someone look and see what publicly available docs (app, 990s) we have on this one? I [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 6103 [REDACTED]

. Thank you!

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Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Device

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**From:** Barre Catherine M  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2013 02:58 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**To:** Lerner Lois G; Paz Holly O; Marks Nancy J  
**Subject:** House Oversight Committee Minority Staff

The house oversight committee (not the subcommittee of ways and means) has requested any publicly available information on an entity that they believe has filed for c3 status.

They do not have a waiver.

The entity is KSP True the Vote EIN [REDACTED].

They believe the entity has filed tax returns in the past and would like copies of those if they are publicly available in addition to any other information that is publicly available about the entity's tax-exempt status.

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**From:** Lerner Lois G  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2013 5:57 PM  
**To:** Paz Holly O  
**Subject:** RE: House Oversight Committee Minority Staff

thanks--check tomorrow please

*Lois G. Lerner*

Director of Exempt Organizations

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**From:** Paz Holly O  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2013 4:04 PM  
**To:** Lerner Lois G  
**Subject:** RE: House Oversight Committee Minority Staff

Have not heard yet. We didn't get the request until people had left on Friday and people were in late or on unscheduled leave today.

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**From:** Lerner Lois G  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2013 4:01 PM  
**To:** Paz Holly O  
**Subject:** RE: House Oversight Committee Minority Staff

Did we find anything?

*Lois G. Lerner*

Director of Exempt Organizations

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**From:** Paz Holly O  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2013 4:51 PM  
**To:** Barre Catherine M; Lerner Lois G; Marks Nancy J  
**Subject:** Re: House Oversight Committee Minority Staff

I will see what we have as far as publicly available info and get back to you asap.

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Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Device

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**From:** Paz Holly O  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2013 4:40 AM  
**To:** Barre Catherine M  
**Cc:** Lerner Lois G; Marks Nancy J  
**Subject:** FW: House Oversight Committee Minority Staff  
**Attachments:** 27-2860095 67 201112.pdf; 27-2860095 67 2010 .pdf

**Importance:** High

Cathy,

We have no record that this organization is recognized as a tax-exempt organization by virtue of an approved application. As you know, 6103 only permits us to talk about or provide copies of approved applications. [REDACTED]

6103

[REDACTED] The organization has filed two Forms 990-EZ (attached) that we can share with the staffers.

Please let me know if you would like to discuss.

Thanks,

Holly

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**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2013 02:58 PM Eastern Standard Time  
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