

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 779

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to double the damages, fines, and penalties for the unauthorized inspection or disclosure of returns and return information, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 31, 2007

Mr. REYNOLDS (for himself and Mr. RAMSTAD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to double the damages, fines, and penalties for the unauthorized inspection or disclosure of returns and return information, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Tax Snooping Preven-
5 tion Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. DOUBLING OF CIVIL DAMAGES FOR UNAUTHOR-**
2 **IZED INSPECTION OR DISCLOSURE OF RE-**
3 **TURNS AND RETURN INFORMATION.**

4 Subparagraph (A) of section 7431(c)(1) of the Inter-
5 nal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking
6 “\$1,000” and inserting “\$2,000”.

7 **SEC. 3. DOUBLING OF CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR UNAU-**
8 **THORIZED INSPECTION OF RETURNS AND RE-**
9 **TURN INFORMATION.**

10 Paragraph (1) of section 7213A(b) of such Code is
11 amended by striking “\$1,000, or imprisonment of not
12 more than 1 year, or both,” and inserting “\$2,000, or im-
13 prisonment of not more than 2 years, or both,”.

14 **SEC. 4. DOUBLING OF CRIMINAL FINE FOR UNAUTHORIZED**
15 **DISCLOSURE OF RETURNS OR RETURN IN-**
16 **FORMATION.**

17 Subsection (a) of section 7213 of such Code is
18 amended by striking “\$5,000” each place it appears and
19 inserting “\$10,000”.

20 **SEC. 5. MANDATORY TERMINATION FOR IRS EMPLOYEES**
21 **FOR UNAUTHORIZED INSPECTION OF RE-**
22 **TURNS OR RETURN INFORMATION.**

23 Paragraph (3) of section 1203(b) of the Internal Rev-
24 enue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 (Pub-
25 lic Law 105–206; 112 Stat. 720) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph
2 (A),

3 (2) by adding “or” at the end of subparagraph
4 (B), and

5 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the fol-
6 lowing new subparagraph:

7 “(C) the Internal Revenue Service policy
8 on unauthorized inspection of returns or return
9 information;”.

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