Senators Urge Complete Taxpayer Transparency for Federal Programs

The Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act gives taxpayers, Congress, and federal agencies the tools to root out duplication and waste.

The Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act:

- ✓ Requires the federal government to make public the details, costs, and performance metrics of every federal program

- ✓ Ensures Congress has as much information as possible to identify and solve areas of duplication, waste, fraud, and/or abuse in federal spending

- ✓ Provides taxpayers, Congress, agencies, and any interested stakeholder a fuller, more detailed, more transparent look at how and where federal tax dollars are spent through an expansion of federal program inventory requirements

- ✓ Builds on financial details already required for implementation of the DATA Act (as displayed on USASpending.gov)

- ✓ Provides flexibility to place the inventory where other data exists rather than Performance.gov, or a new site, which will reduce the time needed to view information on federal program spending and performance

- ✓ Tasks OMB to first develop a pilot program for collecting and disseminating program information and then use the results of that pilot program to implement the process government-wide within three years (with one-year of additional flexibility if needed)

- ✓ Ensures the information in the inventory is an open Government data asset consistent with the OPEN Government Data Act signed into law in January 2019

- ✓ Covers programs funded by federal financial assistance including, grants, loans, loan guarantees, and direct appropriations

- ✓ Updates the Financial Assistance section of the bill from previous versions to ensure compliance with privacy laws and simplify award displays

- ✓ Ensures information collected can be appropriately and successfully archived for future use

We can and should continue to aspire toward full federal spending transparency and provide our federal agencies with a clear, direct process to achieve that on behalf of the American taxpayers they serve.