



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MP3 Attached

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CARDIN REMINDS MARYLANDERS TO FILE TAX RETURNS EARLY TO RECEIVE STIMULUS REBATES

Washington, DC – **U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD)** released a public service announcement today urging all eligible Marylanders to file their tax returns early so they can receive their stimulus rebates.

"Most Americans are aware that Congress passed an economic stimulus package, including a modest rebate, to help families struggling in our slow economy. However, many, like veterans who rely on VA disability benefits, seniors who rely on Social Security, or others who would not otherwise need to file a tax return, will need to do so this year to receive their rebate," said **Senator Cardin**. "These are difficult times for Marylanders and families nationwide. No one who is eligible for a rebate should pass up this opportunity."

Approximately 130 million Americans will receive rebates up to \$600. Couples who file jointly will receive \$1200. There also is a \$300 rebate per child. Taxpayers who have qualifying income of \$3,000 to \$75,000 are eligible. Certain Social Security and VA benefits qualify.

Filing an extension beyond April 15 will not change your eligibility for a stimulus rebate, but your rebate will not be processed until your complete return is received by the IRS. Filing a tax return when you do not owe taxes will not change your status with Social Security or the Veterans Administration.

More information on the stimulus rebates passed by Congress is available at www.cardin.senate.gov or www.irs.gov.

MP3 files of the public service announcements are attached. Full scripts are included below.

FORMAT:

MP3 only (attached)

SIZE:

30- and 60-second versions available

30-SECOND VERSION:

Hi, I'm Senator Ben Cardin. Are you a senior or disabled veteran or someone who typically wouldn't need to file an income tax return? If so, you need to pay attention to this. Congress passed an economic stimulus, including rebates for about 130 million Americans. Most will get up to \$600 – \$1200 for couples and \$300 per child. But you must file a tax return as soon as possible, even if

you typically wouldn't. Don't miss out. File now. Go to www.IRS.gov for details.

60-SECOND VERSION: Hi, I'm Senator Ben Cardin. Tax Day is fast approaching. If you are a senior or disabled veteran or someone who typically wouldn't need to file an income tax return, you need to pay attention this year. To help jumpstart our economy, Congress passed a stimulus package that includes rebates for about 130 million Americans with income of \$3,000 to \$75,000 a year. We worked hard to ensure that 20 million seniors and 250,000 disabled veterans were included. Most individuals will get a rebate of up to \$600 – \$1200 for couples plus \$300 per child. But you must file a tax return – the earlier the better – even if you typically wouldn't. If you're concerned about filing a tax return just to receive a stimulus rebate because it might change your Social Security or VA status, don't worry. Nothing will change except you'll have a few hundred dollars more to spend on daily expenses like filling your gas tank or something special for your kids or grandchildren. So don't miss out. File now. Go to www.IRS.gov for more details.

CONTACTS:

www.IRS.gov

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