

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 171

Senators Runestad and Barrett offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to condemn the federal government's expansion of
2 the Internal Revenue Service through the proposed Inflation
3 Reduction Act of 2022.

4 Whereas, The Inflation Reduction Act will allow nearly five
5 hundred billion dollars in new spending by our federal government
6 over the next decade, with almost eighty billion dollars being
7 directed to the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) budget. The budget
8 allocations of this law spell out the current Administration's big-
9 government intentions for the future of the IRS. Over forty-five
10 billion dollars will be directed to "enforcement" while a meager
11 three billion is expected to be used for "taxpayer services." As
12 part of these budgetary expansions, the IRS would hire eighty-seven
13 thousand new employees, making this agency larger than the FBI,

1 Pentagon, State Department, and Border Patrol combined. This Act is
2 not intended to benefit Americans - it is just the latest
3 development in this Administration's police state agenda; and

4 Whereas, This bloating of the IRS's budget and staff also
5 comes at the same time Americans are learning of the massive
6 stockpiling of weapons and ammunition by the government agency. The
7 latest data, released in a 2020 report analyzing the militarization
8 of federal agencies in years prior, found that the IRS had
9 thousands of rifles, shotguns, pistols, and submachine guns as well
10 as an arsenal of over five million rounds of ammunition.
11 Additionally, a 2017 report by the Treasury Inspector General for
12 Tax Administration found that the IRS's Criminal Investigation
13 Division repeatedly violated the civil rights of Americans under
14 the guise of enforcing tax laws and seizing taxpayer property.
15 Michiganders are right to fear a massive budget expansion for a tax
16 collection agency that feels it necessary to arm itself to the
17 teeth in pursuit of collecting our citizens' hard-earned money with
18 little to no restraint; and

19 Whereas, In 1974, then-President Gerald Ford warned Congress
20 that "[a] government big enough to give you everything you want is
21 a government big enough to take from you everything you have." This
22 Administration represents just the latest installment in a half-
23 century long tradition of paying no heed to past generations'
24 commonsense understanding that government should play a minimal
25 role in our lives. As the only President who was a fellow
26 Michigander, it is appropriate for our citizens to take seriously
27 President Ford's warning and strongly condemn this massive
28 expansion of a federal agency that only exists by virtue of our
29 collective tax dollars. The Inflation Reduction Act would hand over

1 tens of billions of dollars to create an IRS big enough - and well-
2 armed enough - to take whatever it wants from our citizens whenever
3 it pleases; now, therefore, be it

4 Resolved by the Senate, That we condemn the expansion of the
5 Internal Revenue Service through the Inflation Reduction Act of
6 2022; and be it further

7 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
8 President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States
9 House of Representatives, the President of the United States
10 Senate, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.