



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: JON SCHNEIDER

PHONE: (202) 225-3826

BISHOP ANNOUNCES RIVERHEAD IRS WILL REMAIN OPEN

Riverhead, NY--Congressman Tim Bishop announced on Tuesday that after several months of sustained pressure from his office and local residents, that the Riverhead Internal Revenue Service (IRS) office will remain open. Bishop was joined for the announcement by IRS officials and Riverhead Supervisor Phil Cardinale.

The Center serves approximately 10,000 people from throughout Eastern Long Island each year. Approximately 8,000 of those people come for forms or a simple question, while the rest require a greater level of service. If the Riverhead office had been closed down, the nearest Service Center would be in Hauppauge. The Service Center has one full-time taxpayer assistance employee, and several additional staff is added during tax season.

“The process of filing tax returns is difficult enough without adding an extra burden,” Bishop said. “For many East End residents, driving to Hauppauge is not just inconvenient, it's impossible.”

When Bishop learned last summer that the IRS was considering closing several service centers, including the one in Riverhead, he fought to make sure that Riverhead was not on the list. However, following a personnel matter in April, the office was briefly closed for approximately three weeks. Bishop fought to reopen the office, citing the need of East End residents to have a service center within driving distance.

“I would like to thank the IRS for taking the concerns of our community seriously, and keeping the Riverhead Service Center open,” Bishop said. “I will continue to be a strong advocate for making sure that government services are as accessible as possible for our community.”

Among the services provided at the Riverhead IRS Service Center are various forms, the ability to get general tax questions answered in person, and free tax preparation services for residents making less than \$35,000 per year.

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