

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 9, 2026

The Honorable Scott Bessent  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Frank Bisignano  
Chief Executive Officer  
Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20224

Dear Secretary Bessent and Chief Executive Officer Bisignano:

We are writing to urge you to take all steps necessary to address the ongoing rat and cockroach infestation at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Atlanta Campus in Chamblee, Georgia. We ask that the IRS give full and fair consideration of employees' requests to close the facility until it has been thoroughly cleaned and determined safe for occupancy and to telework during the remediation process. We also ask that IRS provide a briefing to our offices on the IRS' specific plan to address this occupational health and safety issue.

According to local news reporting and a statement by the National Treasury Employees Union, the IRS Atlanta Campus in Chamblee has been infested with rats and cockroaches for several weeks. IRS employees have shared photos and videos of living and dead rats, rat droppings, and rat traps throughout the office complex, as well as employees sitting on their desks to avoid the office floor. This infestation has led to employees falling ill from exposure to rodent-borne diseases and has forced some staff members to resign from their positions.<sup>1</sup> Our offices have also received a number of concerning messages from constituents on this matter.

While we are glad to hear that IRS is beginning steps to remediate the situation, our understanding is that this work is only in its initial stages and not yet complete.

Employees at the IRS Atlanta Campus have requested that the IRS close the Chamblee office and move to a full telework posture until it eliminates the infestation.<sup>2</sup> As the IRS considers their requests, we also call your attention to a June 2026 memorandum from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, which reminds federal agencies with offices in a 2026 FIFA World Cup host city – such as Atlanta – of their “authority to approve situational/unscheduled telework and

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<sup>1</sup> Tyisha Fernandes, *Rat Infestation at IRS Building Has Staffers Sitting on Their Desks*, WSB-TV (Jun. 2, 2026), <https://www.wsbtv.com/news/local/rat-infestation-irs-building-has-staffers-sitting-their-desks/M6BKZX64MVGDPZHE5LB6BJTSY>; Annie Mapp, *Former Chamblee IRS Employee Says Severe Rat Problem Led to Resignation*, FOX 5 Atlanta (Jun. 2, 2026), <https://www.fox5atlanta.com/news/former-irs-employee-resigns-following-severe-chamblee-office-rat-problem>; *NTEU Statement on IRS Atlanta Campus*, National Treasury Employees Union (Jun. 5, 2026), <https://www.nteu.org/media-center/News%20Releases/2026/06/05/GaCampus>.

<sup>2</sup> *NTEU Statement on IRS Atlanta Campus*, National Treasury Employees Union (Jun. 5, 2026), <https://www.nteu.org/media-center/News%20Releases/2026/06/05/GaCampus>.


other workforce flexibilities.”<sup>3</sup> Given that teleworking is an appropriate response to “significant increases in traffic congestion and commuting delays” from the World Cup, we believe the IRS should also use its “sole and exclusive discretion” to enable teleworking in response to this pressing occupational health and safety hazard.<sup>4</sup>

Therefore, we ask that you take all steps necessary to eradicate the rat and cockroach infestation at the IRS Atlanta Campus, including taking full and fair consideration of employees’ requests to close the facility until it has been thoroughly cleaned and determined safe for occupancy and to telework during the remediation process. Please provide our offices with an update on the steps the IRS is taking by June 23, 2026.

Sincerely,

  
Raphael Warnock  
United States Senator

  
Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator

  
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress

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<sup>3</sup> Veronica E. Hinton, *2026 FIFA World Cup*, CPM 2026-08, U.S. Office of Personnel Management (Jun. 2, 2026), <https://www.opm.gov/chcoc/latest-memos/2026-fifa-world-cup.pdf> at 1.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*