

Author Full Name : Deborah Kornblum**Received Date :** 04/16/2024 04:17 PM**Comments Received :**

FBAR information collection from U.S. citizens who reside outside the United States is an undue burden. The calculations are at times absurd, because you ask for the highest value of an account, but if I move money from one account to another, it looks like I have double the amount that I really do.

The FBAR exists to catch overseas money laundering, but often ends up ensnaring US citizens abroad who need a basic bank account in order to receive salary, pay their bills, have a pension plan, and live a normal life. These aren't money launderers, they're innocent Americans who happen to live abroad. The FBAR should exclude Americans abroad to reduce the signal-to-noise ratio so Treasury can devote its resources to the actual overseas money launders.

Additionally, the extremely low \$10,000 filing threshold has been in place since 1970. It is overdue for an update to at the very least be indexed to inflation, which would be \$79,000 for 2024.

This unfair treatment is a symptom of the overall problem - Americans abroad are treated as collateral damage in the war against overseas tax evasion and money laundering. The IRS recognizes Americans abroad as an underserved community. Surely that would mean that the FBAR is long overdue for review given that it is a massively complicated filing requirement that hasn't changed for over 50 years.

Instead of threatening innocent Americans abroad with life-altering penalties and burdensome filing requirements, the Department of Treasury should work with Congress to bring the US into line with the entire rest of the world in the way it taxes its expats.

Thank you.

Deborah Kornblum

Voting address: Richmond County, NY