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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOUSE OF COMMONS VOTES TO HELP U.S. IRS SEIZE BANK RECORDS OF CANADIANS

Yesterday Canada's House of Commons passed a law that will implement the United States Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) in Canada. With this law, Canadian financial institutions will turn over to the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) the bank records of Canadians the U.S. defines as "U.S. persons."

These Canadians include a "Canadian Cop" (unwilling to reveal identity for fear of consequences to his family). "Why do our most heinous criminals have more Charter rights than I do?" asks this Canadian police officer who has been protecting Canadians for over three decades.

From Canada Day forward, his private financial records held with his Canadian born wife are at risk of being handed over to a foreign government without warrant and with full support of his Canadian bank and Canada Revenue Agency. Yet, as a police officer he cannot view the financial records of persons suspected of crimes without a court order.

"Imagine my surprise when I found out that the U.S. considers me a criminal," says C.C.

That is because C.C. has never filed U.S. tax returns on his entirely Canadian earned, saved and taxed income. He did not suspect until last year that the U.S. IRS demanded this simply because his Canadian mother gave birth to him in the U.S., the nearest medical facility, over a half century ago. "My only crime is my birthplace, something I had no say in."

C.C. feels betrayed by his own Canadian government. As a Canadian citizen since birth who also enforced Canadian laws for over 30 years, he is stunned that the Conservative government—which he has supported and voted for his entire adult life—today passed a law that will prevail over all other Canadian laws enabling a foreign government to seize his family's legal financial records.

"They let the U.S. dictate that I am American and allowed the U.S. to make Canadian laws."

C.C. is one of an estimated one million Canadians families affected by FATCA. He is joining other Canadians to raise funds to mount a legal and constitutional challenge in Canadian courts to protect their rights through the Alliance for the Defence of Canadian Sovereignty.

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