

**Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act):
Passport Related Talking points**

- The Department of State has published its updated passport regulations in accordance with the passage of the FAST Act.
- The FAST Act prohibits the Department from issuing a passport to those persons certified by the IRS as having a seriously delinquent tax debt, and allows the Department to revoke passports previously issued to these individuals.
- This law also permits the Department to deny a passport to persons who fail to provide their social security number (if they were issued one) on their passport applications, or who provide incorrect or invalid social security numbers willfully, intentionally, negligently, or recklessly.

Q: Is it fair to withhold or revoke passports from those who haven't paid taxes?

- Department procedures in denying or revoking passports are in accordance with the FAST Act. The Department is obligated to implement U.S. law as passed by Congress and signed by the President, which includes the FAST Act.

Q: What about U.S. citizens currently abroad certified as seriously delinquent in their tax debt by the IRS? Won't they get stranded overseas?

- U.S. citizens overseas with seriously delinquent tax debt who have their passport applications denied or currently valid passports revoked on this basis are eligible for a limited passport valid only for direct return to the United States.

Q: Has State begun implementing this law? If not, when will you start?

- The Department will shortly begin implementation of the social security number requirement.
- Updates regarding the implementation of the procedures pertaining to denial and revocation of passports to seriously delinquent tax debtors as certified by the IRS will be posted on <http://travel.state.gov>.