

Dear Practitioner,

I am happy to report that with your support the filing season is surpassing all expectations. As of April 2nd, the Department has processed in excess of 1.8 million Personal Income Tax returns of which more than 1.3 million were filed electronically. On a year-to-date basis, the number of returns filed electronically through practitioners has grown by approximately twelve percent and will break the 1 million return mark by the filing deadline. Thanks to the extensive preparation done by the Department, the implementation of the new Schedule HC is also going smoothly.

To avoid delay in the processing of your client's return please make sure that their return includes the new Health Care Schedule HC as well as a payment voucher to accompany any payment by check. Please also confirm that all returns are signed by the taxpayer(s).

On behalf of the IRS, I would like to remind you to make sure all qualifying taxpayers are aware of the federal economic stimulus payments. Many individuals that do not have a federal filing requirement are entitled to stimulus payments; however a qualifying taxpayer must file a federal return in order to receive the payment. If you need more information, DOR has placed the following link on its homepage: [IRS Economic Stimulus Payments Information](#)

On March 12th, GOVERNOR DEVAL L. PATRICK signed EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 499 Establishing a Joint Enforcement Task Force on the Underground Economy and Employee Misclassification

The task force is comprised of designees of the Commissioner of Revenue, the Director of Labor, the Department of Industrial Accidents, the Chief of the Attorney General's Fair Labor Division, the Commissioner of the Division of Occupational Safety, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, the Director of the Division of Professional Licensure, the Director of Apprenticeship Training and the Director of the Division of Unemployment Assistance.

Through joint efforts, the Task Force is charged with combating the underground economy and employee misclassification, including efforts to: (a) foster compliance with the law by educating business owners and employees about applicable requirements; (b) conduct joint, targeted investigations and enforcement actions against violators; (c) protect the health, safety and benefit rights of workers; and (d) restore competitive equality for law-abiding businesses.

We will continue to provide you with updates in future listservs. Click on the following link for a copy of Executive Order # 499
http://www.mass.gov/Agov3/docs/Executive%20Orders/executive_order_499.pdf

There are a number of recent additions to the DOR Legal Library. The following links are provided if you wish to review any of the Public Written Statements.

Updated – March 25, 2008

Category	Description	Date Added
Sales/Use	LR 08-5: Sales of Reports of Individualized Information - G.L. c. 64H, s. 1, "sales" and "selling"	3/25/08
Corp	TIR 08-4: Limitations Period for Certain Corporations and Financial Institutions Failing to File Tax Returns	3/24/08
Health Care	830 CMR 111M.2.1 - Health Insurance Individual Mandate; Personal Income Tax Return Requirements	3/24/08
Sales/Use	LR 08-4: Application of Sales Tax to Sales of Beverages by Health Club Facilities	3/18/08
Admin	TIR 08-3: Interest Rate on Overpayments and Underpayments	3/14/08
Sales/Use	LR 08-3: Exemption from Sales Tax for Medicine	3/12/08
Income	Working Draft Directive 08-XX: The Massachusetts Income Tax Treatment of Contributions on behalf of Partners and Other Self-Employed Individuals under a 401(k) Plan	2/22/08

In closing, I would like to thank you for your continued support and look forward to a successful conclusion to the filing season.

Navjeet Bal
Commissioner of Revenue