



Resources for Businesses and Tax Professionals

HB 384: Tax Amnesty

HB 384, sponsored by Representative Tom Flanigan (R-Carthage), authorizes the state of Missouri to offer a tax amnesty program from September 1, 2015, to November 30, 2015. The amnesty allows a one-time opportunity for delinquent taxpayers to pay all unpaid state taxes that were due on or before December 31, 2014, without paying any interest or penalties.



Tax types that are amnesty eligible include individual income tax, corporate income tax, corporate franchise tax, employer withholding tax, sales tax, consumer's use tax, vendor's use tax, and fiduciary tax.

The program requires taxpayers to stay in compliance with all state tax laws for eight years after signing the agreement. Taxpayers who are the subject of any civil or criminal state tax-related investigations or litigation cannot participate in amnesty.

The Missouri Department of Revenue will begin mailing tax amnesty notices to delinquent taxpayers and businesses in late-August. The mailings will include information such as the amounts owed and the amounts the taxpayer will save in interest and penalties. More information will be available on the Department's website in the coming months.

This bill also allows the Director of Revenue and the Commissioner of the Office of Administration to enter into a reciprocal collection agreement with the federal government to offset vendor, contractor, and taxpayer payments for any type debt owed to the state. The bill replaces the current taxpayer ombudsman with an independent taxpayer advocate who will be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The bill establishes a commission to study the Missouri tax code. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 27, 2015.

SB 149: Sales and Use Tax

SB 149, sponsored by Senator Mike Parson (R-Bolivar), creates a state and local sales and use tax exemption for all machinery, equipment, computers, electrical energy, gas, water, and other utilities; including telecommunication and internet services, used in new data storage center facilities. The bill creates a state and local sales and use tax exemption for purchases of tangible personal property for the construction of a new data storage center facility. The bill also creates a state and local sales and use tax exemption for existing data storage center facilities for all machinery, equipment, computers, electrical energy, gas, water, and other utilities; including telecommunication and internet services. In order to receive the sales tax exemption, an application must be made to the Department of Economic Development for certification. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 14, 2015.



SB 336: Withholding Tax

SB 336, sponsored by Senator Will Kraus (R-Lee's Summit), specifies for employees that earn tips, the amount of income that the employer should withhold for tax purposes shall be based on the greater of the total tips reported to the employer on the employee's written statement or the amount of tips remitted to the employee by the employer. Shared tips will be attributed to the employee who actually receives the tips. The amount that should be withheld is limited to the amount of the employee's wages in control of the employer. The bill was signed by the Governor on June 22, 2015.