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For more information, contact:  
Mike Gowrylow  
(360) 570-6048

**Taxpayers Reminded to Claim Sales Tax Deduction on Federal Returns**

**OLYMPIA, Wash.**, April 10, 2007 — The Washington State Department of Revenue reminds taxpayers who itemize to claim the state and local sales tax deduction on their 2006 federal income tax returns due April 17.

Congress reauthorized the deduction for 2006 and 2007 after the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) printed Form 1040 and instructions. The IRS later sent Publication 600 to six million taxpayers in states whose residents could benefit from the deduction. However, taxpayers who file using paper returns and itemize their deductions still might miss that deduction.

The Department estimates that the approximately one-third of state taxpayers who itemize deductions will save more than \$400 million in federal taxes annually if they claim the sales tax deduction.

The Department of Revenue is not involved in processing IRS tax returns, but it does receive inquiries on how to determine state and local sales tax rates, so it is providing assistance as a courtesy to state residents.

For more information, including links to relevant IRS web sites, please visit <http://dor.wa.gov>.

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