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The Department of Revenue makes amending tax returns much easier

OLYMPIA, WA – May 23, 2013--The Department of Revenue recently released a new online tool that lets businesses amend previously-filed state excise tax returns electronically.

The new service has already proved popular with taxpayers, who filed more than 1,100 amended returns in its first two weeks of availability.

“We are continuously working to make doing business with the state easier for taxpayers,” Revenue Director Carol K. Nelson said. “We are pleased to make this new tool available, and delighted that it is already being so widely used.”

Taxpayers have been able to file their returns online through Revenue’s eFile system since 1998, but amended returns still had to be filed on paper. Being able to file amended figures online is a service that many taxpayers have requested.

In addition to filing amended figures, the new system also allows a taxpayer to make a payment or request a credit or a refund.

An accountant in Puyallup – among the first to use the new amended return system – was so happy with it that she sent a thank-you message to Revenue.

“We just wanted to let you know how great we think the new amendment procedure is,” wrote Kathy Waters of Summit View Accounting. “So much better than before, when it was all through writing. I just used it for the first time and loved it.”

Nelson notes the new system supports the Governor’s focus on improving government efficiency and finding ways to make it easier for people to do business with the State of Washington.

In addition to improving customer service, online filing of amended returns is a more efficient way for staff to review and verify taxpayer requests and improves accuracy.

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