



# Special Notice

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

AUGUST 30, 2011

## **B&O Tax Rate Lowered for Printing and/or Publishing of Newspapers**

Engrossed House Bill 2122 (Chapter 461, Laws of 2009) provides a reduced B&O tax rate for businesses that print newspapers, publish newspapers, or both. **Note:** electronic versions of newspapers no longer qualify for the reduced B&O rate beginning July 1, 2011.

The B&O tax rate for printing and/or publishing newspapers is reduced from .00484 to .002904. The change becomes effective July 1, 2009. The legislation did not change the definition of a newspaper provided in RCW 82.04.214.

Any business claiming the preferential tax rate must file electronically an annual report with the Department of Revenue on or before April 30th of the year following the year in which a person becomes eligible to claim the reduced B&O tax rate. Failure to file the annual report will result in the amount of tax due being recalculated at the .00484 rate, plus interest.

In addition, any business claiming the preferential rate must file electronically all returns, forms, and any other information required by the Department of Revenue.

The annual report will be available on the Department's website at <http://dor.wa.gov> for electronic filing after January 1, 2010.