

Talking Points for Moving the Department of Revenue Tax Credit Deadline from December 1st to November 15th

Problem: Service to taxpayers negatively impacted (later arriving tax bills) due to DOR information needed for annual property tax bills being the last information received to be able to prepare tax bills by most municipalities and counties for at least the last decade. This results in:

- Property tax rates not calculated as soon as taxpayers desire
- Little time available to determine correct tax rates
- Because of DOR delays most tax bills completed at same time creating a bottle neck at tax bill printer(s)
- Tax bills get to taxpayers later than desirable giving taxpayers less time to pay their tax bills prior to December 31st (More than half of taxpayers desire to pay their taxes prior to December 31st for income tax reasons)
- Tax information provided to escrow companies later than desirable giving escrow companies less time to make payments to municipalities and counties during December causing taxpayers stress not knowing if their tax bill will be paid prior to the end of the year
- Later arriving tax bills result in longer lines for taxpayers that pay their tax bills in person (In Franklin 56% of taxpayers pay in person)

Solution: Require DOR to provide information to municipalities and counties fifteen days earlier than currently required in statute

- Receiving the information fifteen days earlier will address the problems with the current statutory deadline presented above
- Requiring the DOA to provide some of the information to DOR earlier shares the load among departments so that DOR can meet this earlier deadline
- DOR has made many technological improvements over the last three biennium's but the service to municipalities and counties has deteriorated during this same time period
- During the last four years communications with DOR encouraging them to provide information to the municipalities and counties earlier has been dismissed as not possible because they didn't have all of the information that they needed from other departments any earlier
- A year ago DOR was asked to jointly support moving the deadline earlier and provide the types of information that DOR needed earlier so that DOR could provide the information earlier to municipalities and counties without compressing DOR requirements. DOR never responded!
- This year with some prompting from a Senator a DOR reply was received to move the deadline earlier . However there reply indicated they would try but the lateness was due to the 1800 municipalities not getting information to the DOR timely. What will be the reason in future years that information cannot be provided earlier? When a deadline has to be met then ways are found for it to be met

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