



From the Office of Secretary of State

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Gale boosts online process for filing business reports

LINCOLN – There is a change in the way that domestic and foreign corporations are being notified about filing their biennial occupation tax reports in Nebraska says Secretary of State John Gale.

“In the past we automatically mailed reports to all of those entities at the end of the year. This year, we sent postcards instead, reminding users of the deadlines and the availability of our online services.”

Business entities will be able to file the required reports online starting January 2.

Biennial occupation tax reports of domestic and foreign corporations, along with the required tax payments are due March 1 and delinquent by April 15. Failure to file the report and pay the tax can lead to dissolution of the domestic corporation or the in the case of the foreign corporation, revocation of the certificate of authority to operate in Nebraska.

Annual reports for limited liability partnerships can also be filed online. Those reports, along with the required fees are due April 1.

Gale said only LLPs will automatically receive a paper form in the mail.

In 2012, there were more than 50,000 active domestic and foreign corporations registered in Nebraska. “That’s a significant amount of mail,” explained Gale. “Inevitably, a number of those would be returned as undeliverable because the registered agents’ information was not current. Now, instead of sending out the form, we’re only sending out a postcard.”

Business entities are encouraged to file their report online at http://ne.gov/go/corp_tax_report. Payments for the online filings may be made by credit card or electronic check.

"Not only does filing online eliminate the amount of mail and paper handled, some of the information is already pre-populated, reducing the risk that the report will be returned due to errors. The report is instantly filed and viewable online within a few hours," said Gale. "This also eliminates the possibility of data being entered incorrectly by a third person from a handwritten form. And, through the online function, users can update other relevant details through a separate filing."

Once the form is completed, users will immediately receive an electronic receipt.

Another new feature on the website also allows users to print off a copy of their report, which can be completed and then mailed to the Secretary of State's office. To request a paper report, go to http://ne.gov/go/mail_request.

"That saves business entities from having to wait to receive a hard copy from our office," said Gale. "Hopefully, with these changes we have increased the ease of use, and therefore, will have more businesses meet the appropriate deadlines."

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