

**50 DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION
2011 Fiscal Impact Statement**

1. Patron R. Creigh Deeds

3. Committee Senate Finance

4. Title Taxation: Fillable Tax Forms

2. Bill Number SB 1450

House of Origin:

☐ Introduced

☐ Substitute

☐ Engrossed

Second House:

☐ In Committee

☐ Substitute

☒ Enrolled

5. Summary/Purpose:

This bill would require the Department of Taxation ("TAX") to make all state tax forms available on TAX's website in fillable portable document format (PDF) for periods beginning on and after January 1, 2012, no later than March 1, 2013.

In addition, TAX would be required to develop guidelines for using fillable forms and publish them on its website.

6. Budget amendment necessary: No.

7. No Fiscal Impact. (See Line 8.)

8. Fiscal implications:

Administrative Impact

TAX does not require additional funding to implement this bill.

Revenue Impact

There is no revenue impact for this bill.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:

Department of Taxation

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments:

Background

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) currently provides fillable forms on its web-site in a PDF format. These forms can be downloaded and filled in by typing letters and numbers into the appropriate boxes. The forms provide no arithmetic or limit checks to assist with the accuracy of the form and cannot be filed electronically.

PDF (Portable Document Format) is a file format based on the PostScript page description language that represents a document independently of the software or computer platform that created it. PDF files can be composed of text, graphics and images and can be read, browsed, searched and printed on most major operating systems using either the freely available viewing program, Adobe Reader, or other programs capable of reading PDF files.

Proposal

Under this bill, TAX would be required to provide all state tax forms as fillable forms in PDF on its website. The fillable forms would be similar to the IRS format and would provide no arithmetic or limit checks to assist with the accuracy of the form and could not be filed electronically.

This bill would specify that the fillable forms provided by TAX could not replace, supersede, modify, duplicate or compete with the Virginia Free File program in its provision of online interactive tax software and filing products and services for Virginia taxpayers.

This bill would also require TAX to make all state tax forms available on TAX's website in fillable portable document format (PDF) for periods beginning on and after January 1, 2012, no later than March 1, 2013.

cc : Secretary of Finance

Date: 3/4/2011 TG
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