



PAY NOW OR PAY MORE LATER

Approximately 400,000 Virginians will be getting mail this fall from the state's Department of Taxation, and believe it or not, the letters should be surprisingly welcome. The Commonwealth is undertaking a tax amnesty program, giving individuals and businesses that have fallen behind on their state taxes a chance to catch up – penalty free.

Proposed by Gov. Mark Warner and passed by the General Assembly earlier this year, the 2003 Virginia Tax Amnesty Program waives all penalties and half the accrued interest for qualifying delinquent taxpayers, providing they pay their back taxes and the other half of the interest during the 63-day amnesty period, which runs from Sept. 2 through Nov. 3 of this year.

“Programs like this one, that have been well-received in other states, provide an attractive incentive to those who, for whatever reason, are behind on their state taxes,” said Kenneth W. Thorson, Tax Commissioner. “Amnesty is projected to generate an additional \$48 million in tax revenue and is an important effort in balancing the budget for fiscal year 2004.”

For more information, visit the Tax Amnesty web site at www.VaTaxAmnesty.com and sign up for email updates. You will be able to access QuickPay from this site – a free and secure service where taxpayers can research their account status and pay bills online.