

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
**News Release**

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor  
William A. Corbus, Commissioner

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**Alaska corporations with Gulf Coast  
hurricane damage get tax extension**

**JUNEAU** – Alaska taxpayers with business operations in the Gulf Coast states impacted by hurricanes Katrina and Rita have received an extension on filing corporate income tax returns with the Alaska Department of Revenue.

“It is fair to allow a reasonable filing delay for corporate taxpayers unable to file or pay taxes on a timely basis as a result of the hurricanes,” said Revenue Commissioner Bill Corbus.

The filing deadline is extended through February 26, 2006, said Charles Harlamert, chief of operations for the Tax Division.

The extension for victims of Hurricane Katrina is for filing returns and payments that are due on or after August 29, 2005. The February 26, 2006 deadline also applies for Hurricane Rita victims filing returns and payments due on or after September 23, 2005.

“Qualified corporate taxpayers are those that are unable to file returns or make payments by the due date as a direct result of either hurricane,” Harlamert said.

“Qualified taxpayers may claim relief by writing ‘Hurricane Katrina’ or ‘Hurricane Rita’ in red across the top of their return or payment coupon. The return should be accompanied by a statement of facts sufficient to show reasonable cause.”

Harlamert said the revenue department would not impose interest and any late filing or failure to pay penalties that would otherwise apply through February 26, 2006.

State revenue officials have no legal authority to extend the due date for filing returns or tax payments for any tax other than corporate income taxes.

“However,” Corbus said, “taxpayers who were unable to timely file returns for or pay other Alaska taxes as a direct result of either hurricane should write ‘Hurricane Katrina’ or ‘Hurricane Rita’ in red at the top of their return or payment correspondence.

“They should attach a statement describing the reason for late filing or payment and the department will not will not impose penalties where the failure to timely file or pay was due to reasonable cause.”

Even if a taxpayer has reasonable cause for delay, Alaska statutes stipulate that the Department of Revenue must impose interest on tax payments received after the due date.

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