



## DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***Department of Taxation Warns Taxpayers About Suspicious Letters***

HONOLULU – The Department of Taxation is alerting Hawaii taxpayers that letters and mailers from private companies – some of which could be fraudulent - are targeting taxpayers that may have a tax lien. These letters are also targeting taxpayers who have *already paid* their tax lien.

The misleading letters are created to look like they're from the Department of Taxation or another government agency – using threatening language and scare tactics to trick taxpayers into calling them and sharing confidential information. Taxpayers are warned to **never** give out any personal information, until you have confirmed that you are actually dealing with the State of Hawaii Department of Taxation.

When initiating contact with taxpayers, the Department of Taxation will always first send a letter via postal mail and provide a direct telephone number to our offices. To confirm whether a letter or mailer is from the State of Hawaii Department of Taxation, taxpayers are asked to **call our Collections Branch directly at 587-1620** to confirm whether the letter or mailer is authentic.

Samples of these types of misleading letters and mailers being sent to Hawaii taxpayers are attached.

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