# **Table of Contents**

# 2014-15 Governers Budget - Revenue Dept

| Αg | jency Profile - Revenue Dept                          | 1  |
|----|---|----|
|    | Current, Base and Governor's Recommended Expenditures | 3  |
|    | Sources and Uses                                      | 4  |
|    | Governor's Changes                                    | 5  |
|    | All Funds FTE by Program                              | 8  |
|    | Revenues Summary                                      | g  |
|    | Tax System Management                                 | 10 |
|    | Current, Base and Governor's Recommended Expenditures | 13 |
|    | Sources and Uses                                      | 14 |
|    | Accounts Receivable Debt Collection                   | 15 |
|    | Current, Base and Governor's Recommended Expenditures | 17 |
|    | Sources and Uses                                      | 18 |

#### Mission:

The Department of Revenue's mission is to gain compliance with tax laws to fund public services in Minnesota.

# Statewide Outcome(s):

Revenue supports the following statewide outcome(s).

Efficient and accountable government services.

#### Context:

The Minnesota Department of Revenue works together with individuals (3.7 million), businesses (610,000), local governments (over 3,300), federal and state agencies, tax professionals, and others to administer 28 state taxes, collecting \$17.3 billion annually to fund state and local programs.

The Department also collects non-tax debt owed to state agencies, oversees the uniform application of property tax laws by local governments, administers state property tax refund and relief programs, and makes state aid payments to counties, cities, towns, and special taxing districts through 32 different state programs.

Revenue collected by the Department is allocated through the budget process to fund education, health care, roads and bridges, transit, parks and trails, prisons, public safety, job training, economic development, local government services, and other programs.

Complex tax laws, changing technology, taxpayer expectations, and shifting demographics all influence the Department's efforts to administer the tax system. Key issues for the Department include formulating recommendations for changes to tax laws that meet expectations for fairness, simplicity, and economic growth; improving outreach and education efforts that promote and increase voluntary compliance; and expanding the use of tax analytics to increase the efficiency of enforced compliance. A fully implemented integrated tax system and new website lay the groundwork for further improvements to customer interfaces, process improvements to taxpayer services, and reduced cost of compliance for taxpayers and the state.

To carry out the work of the Department, the budget is organized into two major programs, Tax System Management and Debt Collection Management. Tax System Management includes activities such as compliance support; appeals, legal services and tax research; property tax administration and state aids; tax payment and return processing; tax compliance and enforcement; and technology development. The Debt Collection Management program includes tax and non-tax debt collections.

The Department employs over 1,500 full-time equivalent staff organized into five major clusters: business taxes, individual taxes, tax policy, and administrative support functions, and MN.IT employees provide technical support.

More information on the Department, including its mission, values and strategies, can be found at: http://www.revenue.state.mn.us.

**Major Taxes**: In fiscal year 2012, most state tax revenue was generated by the Individual Income Tax (\$7.8 billion), Sales and Use Tax (\$4.3 billion) and the locally administered property taxes (\$7 billion, not included in state total revenues).

Other State Taxes include: corporate franchise tax; estate tax; motor vehicle sales tax; motor fuels excise taxes; alcoholic beverage taxes; cigarette taxes and fees; tobacco products taxes and fees; controlled substances tax; mortgage registry tax; deed transfer tax; bingo, raffle and paddlewheel tax, pull-tab and tip-board tax; combined receipts tax; pari-mutuel taxes; insurance premium taxes; health care surcharges; MinnesotaCare taxes; mining occupation tax; net proceeds tax; state property taxes; motor vehicle registration tax; air flight property tax; aircraft registration tax; rural electric co-ops; solid waste management taxes; and metropolitan landfill fees.

# Strategies:

The Department has identified seven strategies to achieve our vision - "Everyone voluntarily reports and pays the right amount of tax: no more, no less."

- 1. Provide taxpayers with the information, education and services they need to voluntarily comply.
- 2. Create operational efficiencies and design systems that align with changes in technology, secure taxpaver information, and meet taxpaver and employee needs and expectations.
- Continuously improve our ability to identify non-compliant taxpayers and assist them with returning to compliance.
- Listen to our customers and incorporate feedback into the way we provide information and deliver services.
- 5. Identify, develop and recommend changes to the tax laws that help make the tax system fair, simple, reliable, and competitive.
- 6. Foster a productive, innovative and healthy work environment for all employees.
- 7. Measure the cost and effectiveness of our activities, add value, and make improvements to achieve positive outcomes.

# **Measuring Success:**

The Department is committed to using performance measures to drive desired outcomes, measure progress and ensure productivity goals are met. Eleven outcome measures capture the progress the agency is making toward meeting its mission and vision. These key measures will be used to track, evaluate and communicate the Department's progress.

- 1. Percent of taxpayers that file and pay on-time
- 2. Taxpayer satisfaction
- 3. Percent of electronic taxpayer transactions
- 4. Taxpayer security
- 5. Non-compliant taxpayers brought into compliance
- 6. Sustained compliance rate
- 7. DOR employee turnover rate
- 8. Employee satisfaction
- 9. Return on investment (ROI) compliance vs. voluntary
- 10. Participation in DOR outreach activities
- 11. Appeals cases settled and age of unresolved cases

# Current, Base and Governor's Recommended Expenditures

(Dollars in Thousands, Biennial Totals)

|   | General Funds | Other State Funds | Federal Funds | All Funds |
|---|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Current Biennium Expenditures (FY 2012-13)              | \$276,345     | \$19,954          |               | \$296,299 |
| Current Law Expenditures (FY 2014-15)                   | \$280,787     | \$15,754          |               | \$296,541 |
| Governor's Recommended Expenditures (FY2014-15)         | \$276,139     | \$15,754          |               | \$291,893 |
| \$ Change from FY 2014-15 Current Law to Governor's Rec | (4,648)       | \$0               |               | (4,648)   |
| % Change from FY 2014-15 Current Law to Governor's Rec  | (2%)          | 0%                |               | (2%)      |

## Sources and Uses

(Dollars in Thousands)

|                              |               | Biennium FY1      | 4-FY15        |             |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
|                              | General Funds | Other State Funds | Federal Funds | Total Funds |
| BALANCE FORWARD IN           |               | \$474             |               | \$474       |
| REVENUE                      | \$0           | \$7,284           |               | \$7,284     |
| APPROPRIATION                | \$276,190     | \$8,470           |               | \$284,660   |
| SOURCES OF FUNDS             | \$276,190     | \$16,228          |               | \$292,418   |
| BALANCE FORWARD OUT          |               | \$474             |               | \$474       |
| TRANSFERS OUT                | \$50          |                   |               | \$50        |
| EXPENDITURES                 | \$276,139     | \$15,754          |               | \$291,893   |
| PAYROLL EXPENSE              | \$203,189     | \$9,264           |               | \$212,452   |
| OPERATING EXPENSES           | \$70,865      | \$6,490           |               | \$77,355    |
| OTHER FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS | \$1,356       |                   |               | \$1,356     |
| GRANTS, AIDS AND SUBSIDIES   | \$700         |                   |               | \$700       |
| CAPITAL OUTLAY-REAL PROPERTY | \$30          |                   |               | \$30        |
| USES OF FUNDS                | \$276,189     | \$16,228          |               | \$292,417   |

#### **Governor's Changes**

(Dollars in Thousands)

|      |          |          | FY 16-17 |       |          |
|------|----------|----------|----------|-------|----------|
| FY 1 | 14 FY 15 | Biennium | FY 16    | FY 17 | Biennium |

#### **Tax System Simplification & Efficiency**

The Governor recommends a reduction to the agency's budget to reflect budget savings resulting from agency efforts to improve the administration of the tax system. The Department is continuously evaluating procedures and processes and implementing new, innovative solutions to administer tax laws in ways that are convenient, fair and efficient for taxpayers. Five current initiatives are designed to streamline tax processing, and make tax filing and paying easier, resulting in lower costs for taxpayers and the Department, without incurring a revenue loss. They include: 1). Automated collection notices; 2). Centralized print and return mail processing; 3). Replacement of paper check issued refunds with debit card issued refunds; 4). Conversion of some paper tax forms to electronic filing formats; and 5). Completion of e-Services filing, paying, and informational system for business and individual taxpayers. The Department is also pursuing other enhancements to customer service levels that will not result in budget savings.

#### Performance Measures:

Successful implementation of these simplifications and efficiencies is expected to result in improvements in several agency measures, including an increased percentage of returns filed and paid on time, an increased percentage of electronic transactions, and an increase in sustained voluntary compliance.

| General Fund | Expenditure | (2,406) | (2,494) | (4,900) | (2,494) | (2,494) | (4,988) |
|--------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|              | Net Change  | (2,406) | (2,494) | (4,900) | (2,494) | (2,494) | (4,988) |

#### **Taxpayer Assistance Grants Increase**

The Governor recommends additional funding for taxpayer assistance grants. These grants are awarded to non-profit organizations to coordinate, facilitate, educate, and aid in the filing of state and federal tax returns for low-income, elderly, and disadvantaged people. Grant funds help pay for equipment, advertising, training of volunteers, salaries for volunteer coordinators, and supplies. Taxpayer Assistance Services includes accounting and tax preparation services provided by volunteers. Annual grant requests consistently exceed \$400,000. If enacted, taxpayer assistance grants will total \$400,000 per year.

#### Performance Measures:

Increasing the number of taxpayers served by volunteer sites is expected to increase the percentage of returns filed electronically and increase voluntary compliance.

| General Fund | Expenditure | 200 | 200 | 400 | 200 | 200 | 400 |
|--------------|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|              | Net Change  | 200 | 200 | 400 | 200 | 200 | 400 |

## **Governor's Changes**

(Dollars in Thousands)

|   |      |       |          | FY 16-17 |       |          |
|---|------|-------|----------|----------|-------|----------|
| F | Y 14 | FY 15 | Biennium | FY 16    | FY 17 | Biennium |

#### **Electronic Wage Levy Payments and Disclosures**

The Governor recommends requiring electronic wage levy payment and disclosure processing for businesses, state and local employers, and third party filers. Electronic submission of wage levy payments and disclosures is expected to result in reduced agency costs, as well as efficiencies for agency partners. In order to prevent additional technical burden on employers who may be required to submit wage levy payments and disclosures, the Department will utilize the same online system business and state/local government currently utilize to file and pay their withholding tax.

#### Performance Measures:

Use of electronic tools for wage levy payments and disclosures is expected to result in an increase in the agency's sustained compliance rate and improve taxpayer satisfaction by reducing the likelihood of excess levy withholding prompting the need to seek refunds for over-collection.

| General Fund | Expenditure | (150) | (298) | (448) | (298) | (298) | (596) |
|--------------|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|              | Net Change  | (150) | (298) | (448) | (298) | (298) | (596) |

#### **Property Tax Technical Grants**

The Governor recommends one time funding for grants to counties to offset a portion of the cost of converting statutorily required property tax data transmissions and uses to a more modern, efficient system. The updated approach to data reporting will strengthen the analytical and oversight abilities of the Department and aid in bringing greater uniformity to the property tax system. The change will create costs for counties to program their technical systems with the new reporting methodologies. The technology improvements will result in improved efficiency for both counties and the state.

#### Performance Measures:

The success of these one-time grants will be reflected by the participation of all counties in the improved data transmission strategies.

| General Fund | Expenditure | 300 | 0 | 300 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|--------------|-------------|-----|---|-----|---|---|---|
|              | Net Change  | 300 | 0 | 300 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

#### **Continuous Electronic Payment Requirement**

The Governor recommends requiring businesses to pay electronically in all subsequent years if it has been required to pay electronically in any previous year. Current law requires businesses to make electronic payments in a subsequent year if its liability in the previous year was greater than \$10,000. Having a \$10,000 threshold is confusing and makes administering the tax system more complex for taxpayers and the Department. A small revenue impact may occur if taxpayers do not comply with the mandate.

#### Performance Measures:

This proposal will contribute to increases in the percentage of Electronic Taxpayer Transactions.

| General Fund | Revenue    | 0 | 3   | 3   | 2   | 2   | 4   |
|--------------|------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|              | Net Change | 0 | (3) | (3) | (2) | (2) | (4) |

## **Governor's Changes**

(Dollars in Thousands)

|      |         |          | FY 16-17 |       |          |
|------|---------|----------|----------|-------|----------|
| FY 1 | 4 FY 15 | Biennium | FY 16    | FY 17 | Biennium |

#### **Auto Theft Surcharge**

The Governor recommends authorizing the Department to collect the existing auto theft surcharge on automobile insurance policy premiums for Minnesota licensed vehicles. Currently, the Commissioner of Commerce collects the auto theft surcharge and meets that obligation through an inter-agency agreement with the Department of Revenue, which is already required to collect other state taxes that apply to insurance premiums. Revenues from the auto theft surcharge are deposited into a special revenue fund which is appropriated to the Department of Commerce for the auto theft prevention program. Directly assigning the authority to the Commissioner of Revenue would streamline government and allow for the tracking and auditing of taxpayers to ensure the amounts reported and collected are accurate. Providing this authority to the Commissioner of Revenue allows the returns to be audited at the same time the Department audits insurers for other insurance taxes, fees, and surcharges. If enacted, it is anticipated that a minor increase in compliance related revenue would occur.

#### Performance Measures:

This proposal positively reflects inter-agency collaboration toward making state government more streamlined and efficient; additionally success will be reflected in the number of non-compliant taxpayers brought into compliance.

| Other Funds             | Revenue                     | 0            | 0            | 0            | 100              | 100              | 200              |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                         | Net Change                  | 0            | 0            | 0            | (100)            | (100)            | (200)            |
| Net All Change<br>Items | General Fund<br>Other Funds | (2,056)<br>0 | (2,595)<br>0 | (4,651)<br>0 | (2,594)<br>(100) | (2,594)<br>(100) | (5,188)<br>(200) |
|                         | Net Change                  | (2,056)      | (2,595)      | (4,651)      | (2,694)          | (2,694)          | (5,388)          |

# Minnesota Revenue All Funds FTE by Program

|                                     | Current | Forecast Base | Governor's Recommendation |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Program                             | FY 2013 | FY 2015       | FY 2015                   |
| Program: Tax System Management      | 1,204.2 | 1,156.8       | 1,146.8                   |
| Program: Debt Collection Management | 322.3   | 345.1         | 330.1                     |
| Minnesota Revenue                   | 1,526.4 | 1,501.9       | 1,476.9                   |

# Minnesota Revenue Revenue Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

|               |                       | Biennium FY14-15 |                   |               |           |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
|               |                       | General Fund     | Other State Funds | Federal Funds | All Funds |
| Non Dedicated | ALL OTHER             | 3                |                   |               | 3         |
|               | Subtotal              | 3                |                   |               | 3         |
| Dedicated     | DEPARTMENTAL EARNINGS | 0                | 1,141             |               | 1,141     |
|               | INVESTMENT INCOME     |                  | 0                 |               | 0         |
|               | ALL OTHER             |                  | 6,143             |               | 6,143     |
|               | Subtotal              | 0                | 7,284             |               | 7,284     |
|               | Total                 | 3                | 7,284             |               | 7,287     |

## Revenue

# **Tax System Management**

http://www.revenue.state.mn.us

# **Statewide Outcome(s):**

Tax System Management supports the following statewide outcome(s).

Efficient and accountable government services.

#### Context:

The Tax System Management program provides the technologies and human resources required to administer tax laws. This program includes providing tax information services, filing and paying services, property tax and state aid administration, and tax compliance and enforcement activities. A successful Tax System Management ensures individuals, businesses and policy-makers have:

- the information they need to accurately, conveniently, and voluntarily fulfill their tax filing and paying obligations;
- the confidence that everyone is paying the proper amount of taxes, no more or no less; and
- accurate, impartial and complete information to make informed decisions about the structure and operation of the state revenue system.

The activities that contribute to successful Tax System Management include:

**Tax Compliance and Enforcement** - Tax compliance and enforcement activities include voluntary compliance efforts like taxpayer information and service, and enforcement efforts such as taxpayer audits and investigations. Tax compliance divisions include Corporate Franchise Tax, Criminal Investigation, Individual Income Tax and Withholding, Sales and Use Tax, and Special Taxes.

These activities serve Minnesota individual and business taxpayers, tax preparers and attorneys, local tax administrators, legislators and staff.

Key compliance and enforcement issues include: providing taxpayers with the information they need to voluntarily comply; keeping pace with changing technology and tax laws; responding to taxpayer inquiries, in the format desired by the taxpayer (phone, email, social media, walk-in); auditing a wide range of individual and business taxpayers; and identifying and pursuing non-compliant taxpayers while efficiently using public resources.

**Tax Payment and Return Processing** - Tax Payment & Return Processing activities primarily involve processing paper and electronic tax returns, refund requests, and payments sent to the Department. Tax Payment & Return Processing mainly serves individual and business taxpayers and other state agencies.

Key payment and return processing issues include: keeping pace with changing technology; making sure there are convenient, secure ways to accurately file and pay Minnesota taxes; processing tax returns, payments and refunds accurately, efficiently and on time; performing "early audits" of tax returns during processing to ensure they are correct and accurate; issuing timely refunds, depositing and applying payments; and ensuring fraudulent returns are stopped.

Appeals, Legal Services & Tax Research - Appeals, Legal Services and Research activities support tax policy development and tax administration by: analyzing proposed tax legislation and providing revenue estimates of proposed law changes; working with taxpayers to review and resolve tax appeals; providing government officials with the research information they need to make decisions on tax law and policy; providing timely and accurate legislative support and advice; and ensuring the agency complies with state and federal laws and rules.

Appeals, Legal Services and Research serve individual and business taxpayers, tax administrators, the governor, legislators and staff, state agencies, local governments, and nonprofit organizations.

**Property Tax Administration & State Aid** - Property Tax Administration and State Aids activity is responsible for the oversight and administration of Minnesota's property tax system. While counties are responsible for the direct administration of property taxes, the Department oversees and supports the counties by: providing education, guidance, and assistance to county assessors, auditors, and treasurers; overseeing local property tax administration to promote compliance and uniformity; administering a range of specific functions and programs; and collecting, analyzing, and providing data to stakeholders.

Property Tax Administration & State Aids serves taxpayers, local administrators, and state policymakers. These activities promote equity and uniformity throughout the state's very complex property tax system.

**Compliance Support** - Compliance support provides the overall strategic and organizational support to the agency. Compliance Support activities include the commissioner's office, human resource management, facilities, strategic organizational planning, budget planning, financial and performance reporting, tax policy development, taxpayer rights advocate, tax publications and other taxpayer and employee communication.

Compliance Support serves all department employees, individual and business taxpayers, tax administrators, the governor, legislators and staff, state agencies, and local governments.

**Technology Development, Operations & Support** - The Department relies heavily on technology to meet our agency's mission, vision and strategies.

Information technology (IT) functions are now provided under a service agreement with MN.IT Services. MN.IT@Revenue supports the Revenue Department with hardware, software and information technology professionals to run the systems and develop the software applications. This activity serves all employees of the Department and external customers of the agency by providing technology solutions that facilitate tax administration, provide for security of taxpayer data, which meets a unique set of regulatory requirements, and supports continuous business improvements in taxpayer services.

For more information about the activities performed by the Tax System Management Program, go to: http://www.revenue.state.mn.us/Pages/budget.aspx.

## Strategies:

The Department has identified seven strategies to achieve our vision - "Everyone voluntarily reports and pays the right amount of tax: no more, no less." The Tax System Management Program identifies key activities to support the department's strategies below:

- 1. Provide taxpayers with the information, education and services they need to voluntarily comply.
- 2. Create operational efficiencies and design systems that align with changes in technology, secure taxpayer information, and meet taxpayer and employee needs and expectations.
- 3. Continuously improve our ability to identify non-compliant taxpayers and assist them with returning to compliance.
- Listen to our customers and incorporate feedback into the way we provide information and deliver services.
- 5. Identify, develop and recommend changes to the tax laws that help make the tax system fair, simple, reliable, and competitive.
- 6. Foster a productive, innovative and healthy work environment for all employees.
- Measure the cost and effectiveness of our activities, add value, and make improvements to achieve positive outcomes.

#### Results:

| Pe | rformance Measures   | Previous | Current | Trend     |
|----|--|----------|---------|-----------|
| A. | Percent of Taxpayers that File and Pay On-Time                     | 92.0%    | 93.4%   | Improving |
| B. | Percent of Electronic Taxpayer Transactions (File, Pay and Refund) | 70%      | 72%     | Improving |

| Performance Measures  | Previous      | Current       | Trend      |
|---|---------------|---------------|------------|
| C. Return on Investment (ROI) – DOR (Compliance an Voluntary Revenue)                             | \$121 to \$1  | \$134 to \$1  | Improving  |
| D. ROI – Voluntary Tax Revenue  | \$389 to \$1  | \$422 to \$1  | Improving  |
| E. ROI – Direct Compliance Tax Revenue  | \$5.76 to \$1 | \$6.17 to \$1 | Improving  |
| F. DOR Employee Turnover Rate   | 3.2%          | 3.7%          | Increasing |
| G. DOR Website Visits (monthly average)   | 442,437       | 442,551       | Stable     |
| H. DOR Website – Average Visit Duration   | 372 seconds   | 255 seconds   | Improving  |
| I. Percentage of Appeals Cases Greater than One Year of Ag  | 40%           | 34%           | Improving  |
| J. Number of Bill Analyses prepared by the Research Division in connection with tax legislation.* | n 663         | 602           | Stable     |

Performance Measures Notes:

Headings: Previous = FY 2011, Current = FY 2012

- A. Percent of Taxpayers that File and Pay On-time is an indicator of voluntary compliance by Minnesota taxpayers. The ability of taxpayers to file and pay, accurately, on time, implies that they have the information, education and services they need to voluntarily comply.
- B. The percentage of transactions in three key areas- returns, payments and refunds- that occur electronically. Completing required transactions electronically is associated with a variety of efficiencies (lower costs) for both taxpayers and the DOR, including lower labor costs, reduced mailings and increased accuracy.
- C. Total DOR Return on Investment compares total revenues collected by the department versus the department's total budget. The return on investment provides an indication of the overall efficiency of the DOR; a higher or increasing ROI indicates the department is using taxpayer resources efficiently to meet the agency's mission. In FY 2012, the total DOR return on investment was \$134 of revenue for every budget dollar spent.
- D. In FY 2012, Voluntary Tax Compliance (taxpayers that voluntarily comply) efforts produced \$422 for every budget dollar spent on these activities.
- E. In FY 2012, Direct Compliance and Enforcement activities (auditing, criminal investigations, non-filer activities) generated \$6.17 for every budget dollar spent in these activities.
- F. DOR Employee Turnover is measured each fiscal year (FY 2010 and FY 2011 reported). Low and declining turnover rates could suggest that the DOR is meeting the expectations of employees for a productive, rewarding work environment.
- G. DOR Website Visits are measured monthly each calendar year (CY 2011 and CY 2012 reported). This metric identifies the use of the DOR public website by taxpayers.
- H. DOR Website Visit Duration is measured each calendar year (CY 2011 and CY 2012 reported). Typically lower visit durations would indicate web site users are able to more efficiently obtain information.
- I. Percentage of Appeals Cases Greater than One Year of Age. As the DOR becomes more efficient at processing taxpayer appeals, the percentage of cases greater than one year of age drop.
- J. Number of Bill Analyses is computed using biennial figures (FY 2008-2009 vs. FY 2010-2011).

# **Program: Tax System Management**

# Current, Base and Governor's Recommended Expenditures

(Dollars in Thousands, Biennial Totals)

|   | General Funds | Other State Funds | Federal Funds | All Funds |
|---|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Current Biennium Expenditures (FY 2012-13)              | \$218,587     | \$18,171          |               | \$236,758 |
| Current Law Expenditures (FY 2014-15)                   | \$217,029     | \$14,257          |               | \$231,286 |
| Governor's Recommended Expenditures (FY2014-15)         | \$215,107     | \$14,257          |               | \$229,364 |
| \$ Change from FY 2014-15 Current Law to Governor's Rec | (1,922)       | \$0               |               | (1,922)   |
| % Change from FY 2014-15 Current Law to Governor's Rec  | (1%)          | 0%                |               | (1%)      |

# Program: Tax System Management Sources and Uses

(Dollars in Thousands)

|                              | Biennium FY14-FY15 |                   |               |             |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
|                              | General Funds      | Other State Funds | Federal Funds | Total Funds |
| BALANCE FORWARD IN           |                    | \$474             |               | \$474       |
| REVENUE                      | \$0                | \$5,787           |               | \$5,787     |
| APPROPRIATION                | \$215,158          | \$8,470           |               | \$223,628   |
| SOURCES OF FUNDS             | \$215,158          | \$14,731          |               | \$229,889   |
| BALANCE FORWARD OUT          |                    | \$474             |               | \$474       |
| TRANSFERS OUT                | \$50               |                   |               | \$50        |
| EXPENDITURES                 | \$215,107          | \$14,257          |               | \$229,364   |
| PAYROLL EXPENSE              | \$156,291          | \$8,267           |               | \$164,558   |
| OPERATING EXPENSES           | \$56,731           | \$5,990           |               | \$62,721    |
| OTHER FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS | \$1,356            |                   |               | \$1,356     |
| GRANTS, AIDS AND SUBSIDIES   | \$700              |                   |               | \$700       |
| CAPITAL OUTLAY-REAL PROPERTY | \$30               |                   |               | \$30        |
| USES OF FUNDS                | \$215,157          | \$14,731          |               | \$229,888   |

## Revenue

## **Accounts Receivable Debt Collection**

http://www.revenue.state.mn.us

## Statewide Outcome(s):

Accounts Receivable Debt Collection supports the following statewide outcome(s).

Efficient and accountable government services.

#### Context:

The Department of Revenue's Account Receivable Debt Collection program handles delinquent tax debts and other public funds (or "non-tax debts") referred to the Department by other public agencies. The program's mission is to collect the right amount of debt and promote future compliance at the lowest cost to the public.

This program serves taxpayers, tax administrators, state legislators, tax professionals, local elected officials, state agencies, local governments and other public entities.

The Department started collecting non-tax debts on behalf of other agencies in 1994, when legislation provided for a centralized debt collection service within the Agency's Collection Division. In 2008, new legislation expanded this service to include debts referred by courts and local governments in Minnesota. The division now collects 171 types of fees, fines, taxes, and payments for a range of public agencies including:

- 35 State Agencies: Including the Departments of Agriculture, Corrections, Commerce, Employment and Economic Development, Health, Human Services, Labor and Industry, Military Affairs, Natural Resources, Public Safety, Revenue, Transportation, Veterans Affairs, and the Pollution Control Agency
- Four State Boards: State Campaign Finance Disclosure Board, Minnesota Client Security Board, Iron Range Resource Rehabilitation Board, and State Veterans Home Board
- Two Public Employee Retirement Associations: Minnesota State Retirement System and Public Employees Retirement Association
- Six Independent State Government Entities: Attorney General's Office, Secretary of State's Office, Minnesota Individual Affairs Council, Minnesota Office of Higher Education, Minnesota State Lottery, and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system
- Ten Judicial Districts: District Courts in each of the state's 87 counties, which are divided among ten judicial districts for administration purposes
- One pilot program working with County Debt: Hennepin County Restitution

## **Strategies:**

To collect delinquent tax and non-tax debts, the Account Receivable Debt Collection program:

- responds to debtor inquiries about how much they owe, and why they owe;
- educates debtors about filing and payment requirements;
- corrects errors in department tax or penalty assessments;
- negotiates and monitors payment plans;
- encourages voluntary compliance through billing notifications and taxpayer education; and
- uses enforced collection efforts for non-compliant debtors; including issuing liens and levies against debtors' assets, revoking professional licenses, and seizing assets.

# Results:

| Performance Measures                                   | Previous  | Current   | Trend     |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Return on Investment (ROI) - DOR AR Collection Efforts | \$11.69   | \$13.71   | Improving |
| Accounts Receivable Tax Debt Revenue Collected         | \$234 M   | \$257 M   | Improving |
| Non-Tax Debt Revenue Collected                         | \$48 M    | \$49 M    | Stable    |
| Net Delinquent Accounts Receivable Tax Debt            | \$451.6 M | \$461.5 M | Stable    |

Performance Measures Notes:

Previous - FY 2011

Current – FY 2012

In FY 2012, for every dollar spent in Accounts Receivable Debt Collection activities, the DOR collected \$13.71.

# Program: Debt Collection Management

# Current, Base and Governor's Recommended Expenditures

(Dollars in Thousands, Biennial Totals)

|   | General Funds | Other State Funds | Federal Funds | All Funds |
|---|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Current Biennium Expenditures (FY 2012-13)              | \$57,758      | \$1,783           |               | \$59,541  |
| Current Law Expenditures (FY 2014-15)                   | \$63,758      | \$1,497           |               | \$65,255  |
| Governor's Recommended Expenditures (FY2014-15)         | \$61,032      | \$1,497           |               | \$62,529  |
| \$ Change from FY 2014-15 Current Law to Governor's Rec | (2,726)       | \$0               |               | (2,726)   |
| % Change from FY 2014-15 Current Law to Governor's Rec  | (4%)          | 0%                |               | (4%)      |

**Program: Debt Collection Management** 

Sources and Uses (Dollars in Thousands)

|                    | Biennium FY14-FY15 |                   |               |             |  |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|--|
|                    | General Funds      | Other State Funds | Federal Funds | Total Funds |  |
| REVENUE            |                    | \$1,497           |               | \$1,497     |  |
| APPROPRIATION      | \$61,032           | \$0               |               | \$61,032    |  |
| SOURCES OF FUNDS   | \$61,032           | \$1,497           |               | \$62,529    |  |
| EXPENDITURES       | \$61,032           | \$1,497           |               | \$62,529    |  |
| PAYROLL EXPENSE    | \$46,898           | \$997             |               | \$47,895    |  |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | \$14,134           | \$500             |               | \$14,634    |  |
| USES OF FUNDS      | \$61.032           | \$1.497           |               | \$62,529    |  |