

State of Alaska

March 2, 1998

Need Help? Have Questions?
Call our **NEW** Tax Number

1-888-44 TAXES
(1-888-448-2937)

When you have questions about your ES Tax account, call us! We want to hear from you! Use the toll-free number to call from a rural area and you will be connected to the Field Tax Office that serves employers in your area. If you are calling from Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kenai or Juneau, please call the local number for your Field Tax Office.

Anchorage Field Tax Office 269-4850
Kenai Field Tax Office 283-4478

Fairbanks Field Tax Office 451-2876
Juneau Field Tax Office 465-2787

Dear Employer,

I am very pleased at the positive response we received about the Employment Security Tax Newsletter. Thank you so much for your comments.

This newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis, and is designed to provide information on topics of interest to you and to answer questions on matters that effect your business operations.

We believe that a working partnership between business and government is essential to economic growth and development in our state. A major purpose of this newsletter is to facilitate the exchange of ideas and information between the Department of Labor and you, the employer. Because we consider you a valuable stakeholder, your concerns are very important to us. It is because of your successes that the Department of Labor is able to meet our primary objective of improving the economy in Alaska.

This newsletter is one step toward furthering our partnership. We welcome your comments and questions concerning articles you read in the newsletter, suggestions about topics you would like us to address, or any other issues that may be of concern to you.

I am also pleased to announce employers may now **send job listings** to the Alaska Employment Service **via the internet**. In addition to faxing or calling our offices, you can now enter your job opening directly on our webpage at:

<http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/LABOR/jobform/jofom4.htm>

Sincerely,

Rebecca Gamez
ESD Director

New Mat-Su Service

An Employment Security Tax representative will be in the Mat-Su Employment Service Office, located at 877 Commercial Drive in Wasilla, each month on the first and third Mondays (or Tuesday if Monday is a state Holiday) from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., to provide the following services to employers:

- ◆ Information on policy and statutory requirements about the tax program
- ◆ Assistance with preparation of forms
- ◆ Answer questions about an employer's account
- ◆ Provide handouts, blank forms, and newsletters
- ◆ Conduct audits (by appointment)

Appointments can be scheduled by calling 269-4846 or stopping by at your convenience.

Also, on April 30, an ES Field Tax representative will be in the Mat-Su Office, from 9:00 to 3:00 p.m., to assist employers in filing their Employer's Quarterly Report.

Purchasing a Business?

If you are purchasing a business you may be held liable for any ES Taxes not paid by the seller (AS23.20.260(c)). To protect your interests, contact your local ES Field Tax Office before closing escrow and request a Tax Clearance for the business you are purchasing. If any taxes are due, they can be paid before they become an unwelcome surprise.

~~WE DON'T WANT YOUR MONEY!~~ (PENALTIES, THAT IS)

You can save money by filing your Employer's Quarterly Report on time, *even if you are unable to submit your payment* with the report. Penalty is assessed only when the report is late. The penalty is 5% of the contribution due for each 30 day period, or portion thereof, that the report is late up to a maximum penalty of 25%. Reimbursable employers are assigned penalty by a different method, but the savings recognized by filing on time are also substantial. You will be charged interest on your late payment.

If you are experiencing some other difficulty, such as a computer or programming change, that may prevent you from filing your report on time, please contact your local Field Tax Office as soon as possible. We may be able to help minimize penalty and interest that can accrue due to late filing of your report.

Electronic Reporting of Wages is Better! Electronic Reporting of Wages is Better!

Save time and assure accuracy! We can accommodate several different formats for electronic reporting of wages. We will accept nine-track tape (cartridge or round) or 3 ½" IBM formatted diskettes. Please contact :

- ◆ Margie Medeiros for details.
- ◆ Telephone: (907)465-2758
- ◆ E-MAIL: Margie_Medeiros@labor.state.ak.us