



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
REVENUE SERVICES

MEDIA RELEASE

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ENERGY STAR TAX HOLIDAY EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

DRS Notifies Retailers of Sales Tax Exemptions in Energy Law

Hartford – The Connecticut Department of Revenue Services (DRS) is sending information to retailers about a new sales tax “holiday” effective immediately on compact fluorescent light bulbs and Energy Star appliances.

House Bill 7432 was signed into law by Governor M. Jodi Rell on June 4, exempting Energy Star appliances from the sales tax upon passage and exempting the sales of compact fluorescent light bulbs back to June 1, 2007. Energy Star appliances now exempt from the sales and use tax are:

- Refrigerators and Freezers
- Clothes Washers
- Dishwashers
- Room Air Conditioners
- Dehumidifiers
- Room Air Cleaner Units
- Water Coolers
- Battery Chargers

The new law also makes permanent the existing sales tax holiday on home weatherization products. The Energy Star appliances listed above are sales and use tax-exempt until June 30, 2008. The exemption for compact fluorescent light bulbs does not expire. A complete listing of sales and use tax-exempt weatherization items can be found in Special Notice 2006(1.1) on the DRS website at www.ct.gov/DRS.

Letters accompanied by DRS informational publications about the appliance and light bulb exemptions are being mailed to retailers that primarily sell appliances and home improvement products. Information about the sales tax exemptions will also be sent to various building, home improvement, and retail trade associations to share with their members.

Taxpayers who purchased compact fluorescent light bulbs or Energy Star appliances on or after the effective dates and paid sales tax on their purchase should return, with a receipt, to the retailer where the bulbs and appliances were purchased for a refund of the tax paid. Refunds cannot be granted without a receipt.

The state is expected to forego about \$13.5 million in sales tax during the Energy Star sales tax holiday. The exemption for compact fluorescent light bulbs and home weatherization products is expected to cost the state about \$7 million during fiscal year 2008.

All media inquiries should be directed to the DRS Communications Office at (860) 297-5610. For more information about state tax issues, check out the DRS website at www.ct.gov/DRS