

## Did you know?



Through December 31, 2010, there are tax credits available if you make certain energy efficient improvements to your home. These improvements include energy efficient windows, doors, water heaters, heating and air conditioning units, insulation and metal or asphalt roofs. [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) is an excellent resource for identifying what improvements qualify.

## CPA Humor



The accountant had just read the story of Cinderella to his four-year-old daughter for the first time. The little girl was fascinated by the story, especially the part where the pumpkin turns into a golden coach.

Suddenly she piped up, "Daddy, when the pumpkin turned into a golden coach, would that be classed as income or a long-term capital gain?"

## Next Week's Tip

### Filing an Extension

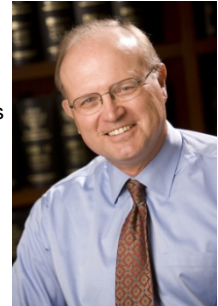
## Countdown to Tax Day 2010

April 1, 2010

It's that time of year again, and the tax experts at Peterson Slater & Osborne want you to be as prepared as possible. Every Thursday leading up to April 15, we will provide you with a tip to make filing your returns a little less taxing.

## Thursday Tip #5 New Sales Tax Filing Requirements

Under recently passed Assembly Bill x4-18, California has expanded the registration and filing requirements with the State Board of Equalization (BOE). The new standards require any "qualified purchaser" conducting business operations with gross receipts of \$100,000 or greater to register with the BOE. Business operations include sole proprietorships, corporations, partnerships and rental activities. Even if a business is not required to collect and submit sales tax, under the new law the business is required to register and file with the BOE. The registration and filing requirements are based on gross receipts, not net income.



The primary purpose of the new requirements is to identify purchases of out-of-state goods that are brought into California and collect the related use tax. The use tax rate is essentially the same as the sales tax rate. Most taxpayers will be able to register and file online. In notices sent out by the BOE, account numbers and express login numbers were assigned. The assigned account number and express login number should be used to register online. If a business was not assigned an account number and express login number, but has a filing requirement, the required information can be obtained online. The BOE website is [www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov).

The BOE is requiring that reports be filed for years 2007, 2008 and 2009. Reports should be filed even if there were no out-of-state purchases and no use tax is due. If amounts are due with the returns the tax can be paid online. The due date for the 2009 return is April 15, 2010. If tax is not paid timely, penalties will be assessed.

-- Bruce J. Legawiec, CPA

**Our clients are our top priority during tax season and all year round.  
Please contact us if you have any questions regarding these new requirements.**

**Peterson Slater & Osborne  
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