



News Release

CONTACT Lisa Waldrup
PHONE 651-556-NEWS (6397)
E-MAIL lisa.waldrup@state.mn.us

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Governor's tax commission examines reform efforts in other states

Recent developments change competitive environment for Minnesota

Saint Paul – The Governor's 21st Century Tax Reform Commission meets at 8 a.m. Friday, Sept. 5, to discuss recent business tax reforms in other states, with a presentation by business tax analyst Robert Cline of the accounting firm Ernst & Young LLP.

A number of states have considered or passed business tax reforms in recent years, changing the economic environment in which Minnesota competes for jobs and business investments.

University of Minnesota economic Prof. Laura Kalambokidis also will brief the commission on the implications of a business activity tax for Minnesota.

Gov. Tim Pawlenty established the tax reform commission to examine how to improve and modernize Minnesota's tax code for state businesses and encourage economic growth in a fast-changing, highly competitive and increasingly global economy. The commission's final report and recommendations are due by Dec. 1.

This week's meeting of The Governor's 21st Century Tax Reform Commission will be held at the Minnesota Society of Certified Public Accountants, 1650 West 82nd Street, Suite 600, Bloomington, MN 55431.

Public input is welcome at all commission meetings or by email at taxreform.feedback@state.mn.us. For more information, visit the commission's website, <http://www.taxes.state.mn.us/mntaxreform/index.shtml>.

Agenda – Friday, Sept. 5, 2008

8:00 – 8:15	Welcome, Housekeeping, Review of Handouts
8:15 – 9:15	Business Tax Reform in Other States Robert Cline, Ernst & Young LLP
9:15 – 9:30	Break
9:30 – 10:00	Research on a Revenue-Neutral BAT for MN Laura Kalambokidis, University of Minnesota
10:00 – 10:30	Commission Discussion
10:30 – 11:00	Work Group Updates
11:00 – 11:30	Public Testimony
11:30	Adjourn