

R.I.T.A. and IRS to Share Data

The Tax Relief and Healthcare Act of 2006 [H.R.6111] included a change in federal law that allows the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.), on behalf of its member municipalities, to obtain tax data from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Previously, federal law prevented the IRS from sharing confidential taxpayer data except with governmental entities with populations exceeding 250,000 residents. Consequently, the sharing of information in Ohio was very limited. R.I.T.A., operating as a Regional Council of Governments, represents a taxpayer base exceeding 1.5 million individuals. As such, Congress voted to change the law to include the Regional Council of Governments in the IRS data exchange program. On December 20, 2006 the Act became law.

What this means to R.I.T.A. member municipalities.

IRS information enhances R.I.T.A.'s compliance programs, audits and revenue reporting to municipalities. Presently, R.I.T.A. utilizes a wide range of tools to locate delinquent non-filers. The IRS information adds another powerful dimension with the addition of **wage and non-wage income**, e.g. 1099s, W2s and Schedule income, **to validate missing or underreported income**. Since the data is exchanged electronically, vast numbers of taxpayer accounts can be systematically flagged for audit. The result is greater compliance and increased revenue to member municipalities.



What this means to Taxpayers in R.I.T.A. communities.

Notices of the IRS data exchange program are being sent to delinquent taxpayers urging compliance with filing, reporting all income and paying municipal income tax liabilities. Taxpayers are encouraged to voluntarily resolve all non-filing or past due matters by filing the appropriate returns or providing a reason for exemption, before incurring assessments that may result through the use of information supplied by the IRS.

Taxpayers may contact R.I.T.A. toll-free at 1.800.860.7482, or click on [Contact Us](#) page to find an office for walk-in assistance.