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DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 2005-15

RE: Adoption of Optional Standard Mileage Rates for September through December 2005

The Department of Taxation (Department) conforms to the federal optional standard mileage rates for computing deductions for operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical, or moving expense purposes. In Ann. 2005-71 (Internal Revenue Bulletin 2005-41, dated September 12, 2005), the Internal Revenue Service announced that due to recent fuel price increases, the standard mileage rates for the period September 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005 are as follows[1]:

Business	**48.5 cents per mile**
Medical or Moving	**22 cents per mile**
Charitable	**14 cents per mile**

The standard mileage rates set forth in the Department's Announcement 2004-18 and in Rev. Proc. 2004-64 continue to apply to deductible transportation expenses paid or incurred for business, medical, or moving expense purposes before September 1, 2005, and to mileage allowances paid both (1) to an employee before September 1, 2005 and (2) with respect to transportation expenses paid or incurred by the employee before September 1, 2005.

To claim the allowable standard mileage rate for business purposes, taxpayers may use federal Form 2106 - "Employee Business Expenses" or federal Form 2106-EZ - "Unreimbursed Employee Business Expenses". If you do not have to file either Form 2106 or 2106-EZ, see the federal instructions for Form 1040 (Schedule A - "Itemized Deductions") to properly claim the unreimbursed mileage.

Hawaii Form N-139 - "Moving Expenses" must be used to claim the allowable standard mileage rate for moving expenses.

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[1] For the period January 1, 2005 through August 31, 2005, the standard mileage rates were: (1) 40.5 cents a mile for an automobile used for business; (2) 14 cents a mile for purposes of the charitable deduction; and (3) 15 cents a mile for purposes of the medical or moving expense deductions. See Internal Revenue Bulletin No. 2004-49 (November 17, 2004).

To claim the allowable standard mileage rate for charitable or medical purposes, refer to the federal instructions for Form 1040 (Schedule A).

Current forms and other tax information may be downloaded from the Department's website at: www.state.hi.us/tax. If you know which tax form or publication you need, please call the Department's request line at 808-587-7572, or toll-free from the neighbor islands and continental U.S. at 1-800-222-7572. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



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HRS Section Explained: HRS Section 235-2.3(a)