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Wisconsin Department of Revenue Reassures Taxpayers Direct File Remains a Safe and Secure Option

Madison, WI – The Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) wants to assure taxpayers that IRS Direct File, a free and convenient way to file federal income taxes directly with the IRS, remains a safe and secure option during the 2025 tax season.

Direct File utilizes robust security measures to protect taxpayer information. Key security features include:

- **Secure Data Transmission:** Tax information is transmitted securely to the IRS using SSL 3.0 128-bit encryption. This creates as many combinations as the number of water molecules in 2.7 million Olympic-size swimming pools.
- **Identity Verification:** The program employs rigorous identify verification procedures to ensure the authenticity of filers. Direct File uses ID.me to help prevent identity theft and to protect taxpayer data.
- **Ongoing Security Monitoring:** The IRS continuously monitors the system for any potential security threats.

"We understand that tax information security is paramount," said David Casey, Secretary-Designee of Revenue. "The IRS has implemented strong safeguards to protect sensitive information throughout the Direct File process."

Direct File is a free IRS program that offers a convenient and user-friendly way for eligible Wisconsin taxpayers to file their federal income tax returns electronically. It integrates seamlessly with WisTax, DOR's free online tax preparation software for filing Wisconsin state taxes. Together, they offer Wisconsinites a secure, seamless way to file both their federal and state return for FREE.

Taxpayers can learn more about Direct File and check their eligibility at <https://www.irs.gov/filing/irs-direct-file-for-free>. Additionally, DOR's website at <https://www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/WisTax/home.aspx> contains information about WisTax, as well as an extensive collection of tax resources for both individual and business filers.

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