The Rhode Island real estate conveyance tax rate will increase effective July 1, 2014.

Through June 30, 2014, the tax remains at $2.00 for each $500.00 – or fractional part of it – which is paid for the purchase of the property.

**Effective July 1, 2014, the tax will be $2.30 for each $500.00 – or fractional part of it – which is paid for the purchase of the property. For real estate closings on or before June 30, 2014, the old rate applies. For real estate closings on or after July 1, 2014, the new rate will apply.**

The Division of Taxation has also developed a new form that cities and towns must now use, effective July 1, 2014, for purposes of making their real estate conveyance tax return.

A copy of the newly formatted return is enclosed. This return is available in both a handprint and fillable PDF format on our website: www.tax.ri.gov/forms. Please discard blank copies of the returns you may currently be using for future filings, and begin filing the new return effective July 1, 2014.

The rate increase is the result of the enactment this month of the State of Rhode Island’s fiscal 2015 budget bill (House Bill 7133Aaa, Article 12, Section 5.) Revenue that is raised as a result of the increase will be used for the state’s lead hazard abatement program, housing rental subsidy, homeless prevention assistance, and housing retention assistance. For more about the real estate conveyance tax, please see Rhode Island General Laws §44-25-1 *et seq*.

Anyone with questions about this notice should contact the Excise Tax Section at (401) 574-8934 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. business days.

David Sullivan
Tax Administrator

June 2014
Notice 2014-08