VIA www.michigan.gov/treasury

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State of Michigan Treasury Warns Taxpayers of Telephone Phishing Scam

Phone calls are not being made by treasury staff.

With the beginning of tax season the Michigan Department of Treasury is warning taxpayers of fraudulent phone calls being made to taxpayers from a "spoofing" phone number. This number has the appearance of being from the Department of Treasury. The taxpayer is being told that they have committed tax fraud and if they don't pay an amount immediately they could be arrested.

Phishing (as in "fishing for information" and "hooking" victims) is a scam to trick taxpayers into providing personal and financial information which can be used to steal the taxpayers' identity and swindle them out of money.

The Department of Treasury will not:

- Demand immediate payment without first mailing you a letter
- Require that you pay your taxes a certain way. For instance require that you pay over the phone with a prepaid debit card
- Threaten to call the police or other law enforcement agencies to arrest you for not paying

Please use caution and NEVER provide personal information unless you are positive that the situation is legitimate. For more information about fraud and tax scams or how to report suspicious calls please read this notice. Please visit the IRS website for additional information about these types of scams.

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