

4800 Dodge Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68132  
**402-551-1755**



4523 North 30th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68111  
**402-453-9999**

### **New Tax Changes that Could Affect You**

Acts of 2007 & 2008

Here are some of the tax law changes that might affect you in upcoming years. More details can be found on [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Please do not hesitate to ask your tax preparer if you have questions about any of the following items:

#### Economic Stimulus Act of 2008

- ‘Rebate’ checks sent out in 2008 based on information from 2007 tax return.
- Payments starting at \$300 for qualified taxpayers may qualify for additional credit when filing 2008 return
- Amount of rebate received is not taxable but the amount is needed to file your 2008 return
- Ask your preparer for more details

#### Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007

- Taxpayers can exclude up to \$2 million of cancellation-of-debt income related to foreclosure or refinancing of their principal residence
- Does not apply to second homes or vacation homes
- Applies to acquisition debt or refinanced debt of principal residence
- Does not apply to taxpayers that refinanced and received large lumps of money
- Ask your preparer for more details

#### Housing Assistance Tax Act of 2008

- 1<sup>st</sup> time homeowners purchasing their home between April 8, 2008 and July 1, 2009 could to \$7500 credit
- Credit is re-paid for up to 15 years starting in 2010 (or 2011 for homes purchased in 2009)
- Ask your preparer for more details

#### Housing Assistance Tax Act of 2008

- Additional standard deduction up to \$500 (all but MFJ) or \$1000 (MFJ) for real estate taxes paid in 2008
- Available for taxpayers that do not itemize their deductions

#### Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008

- Standard deduction for property taxes extended through 2009
- Sales and local tax deduction extended for 2008 & 2009
- Educator expenses extended for 2008 & 2009
- Tuition and fees deduction extended for 2008 & 2009
- Tax-free IRA distribution for charitable purposes for 2008 & 2009
- \$500 Energy Credit re-instated for 2009

Call or stop by Associated Tax with any questions—in Omaha at 48<sup>th</sup> and Dodge or 30<sup>th</sup> and Ames.