# Avalara

How states are using technology in tax enforcement and administration – and how it impacts your business



## **Disclaimer**

While we hope you'll find this discussion helpful, this session is for informational purposes only and is not legal or tax advice.



## **Continuing Professional Education (CPE)**



1 CPE credit



Respond to 3 of 4 poll questions



Attend at least 50 minutes



Download your certificate



Certificates are also available in a post-event email

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Ryan Minnick - Chief Operating Officer, Federation of Tax Administrators

Jay Waldo - Chief Information Officer, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Diane Yetter - President and Founder, YETTER Tax and Sales Tax Institute



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# Meet the professionals









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Vice President of Government Relations

Avalara

**Ryan Minnick** 

Chief Operating Officer

Federation of Tax Administrators\*

### **Jay Waldo**

Chief Information Officer

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

### **Diane Yetter**

President and Founder

YETTER Tax and Sales
Tax Institute

# Agenda

- 1 Importance of good state resources
- Using technology for resources and transparency in tax administration
- 3 Challenges states face
- 4 How tax administration is changing

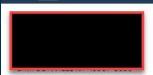
# Importance of good state resources



### **Arkansas** Taxpayer Access Point









Manage My Profile

Summary Action Center Settings More...

Q What are you looking for?



Search for previous submissions.

- > Search Submissions
- View Third Party Requests

### Messages

View messages I've received from DFA.

- > Send a Message to DFA
- > View Letters
- > View Messages

### Account Management

Apply to open or close an account.

- > Register a New Account
- Close Tax Accounts

### Payments and Returns

Manage payments and returns for accounts of this

- > Manage Payments and Returns
- > Tax Credit Incentive
- > XML Bulk Return Upload
- > Bulk Zero Dollar Payment Upload
- > TXT Bulk Withholding Return Upload
- > Bulk 1099 File Upload
- > Add 1099 Records

### Names and Addresses

View or update names and addresses associated to this

> Manage Names and Addresses

### O Access Management

Manage access of accounts I have access to.

- > View Access
- > Manage Access
- > Add Account Access



### Choose Activity

File and Pay

DR-15 (Sales and Use Return)

Amended DR-15 (Sales and Use Return)

Payment Only (Choice does NOT include a tax return)

Other Sales and Use Tax Payments

#### Other Options

Print Resale Certificate(s) Reprint Confirmation Page(s) Update e-Services Profile Check for Bills Change Business Address and/or Account Status

Cancellations must be done before 5:00 p.m. ET on the submission date. If the submission is completed after 5:00 p.m. ET on the submission date, weekend, or holiday the cancellation must be done before 5:00 p.m. ET the next business day. All cancellations are permanently deleted from our database.

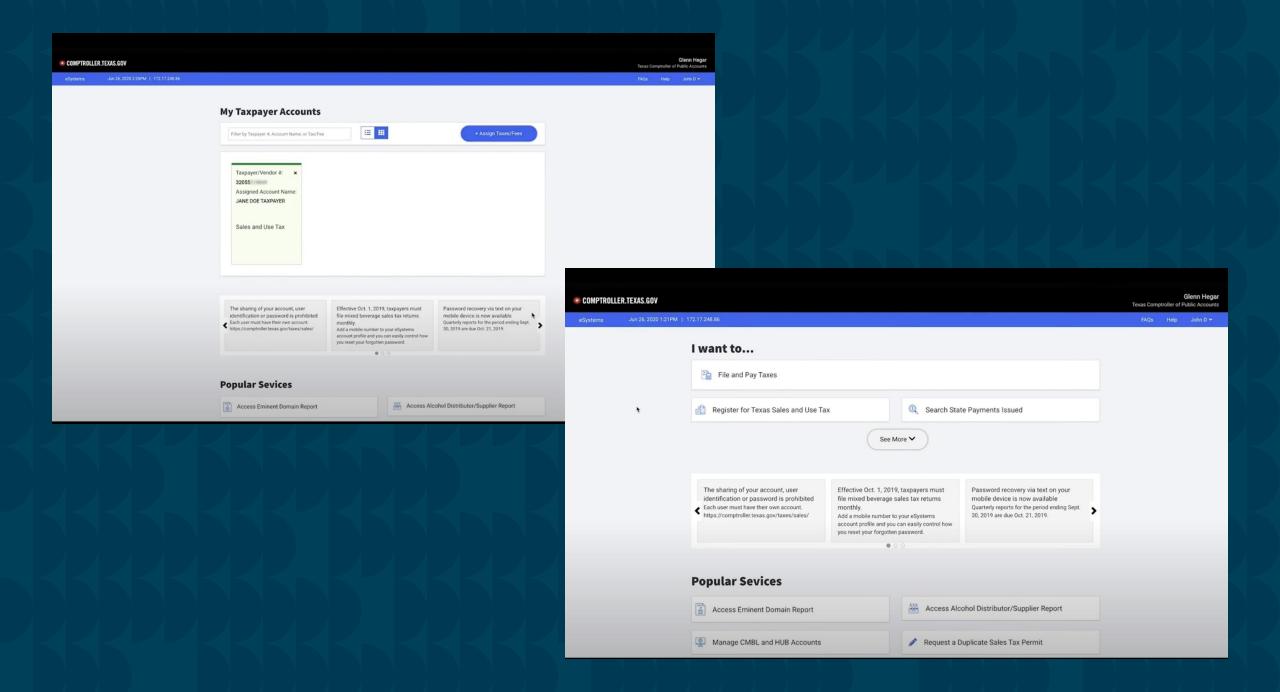
Hope Scholarship Collection Report

Back to Menu

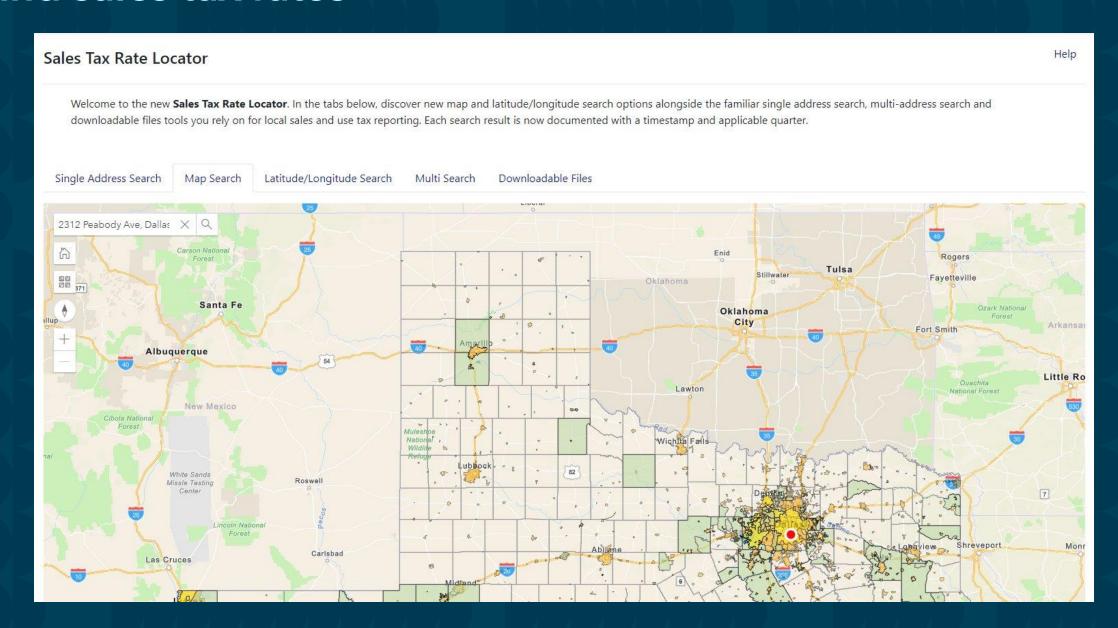
[FAQs]



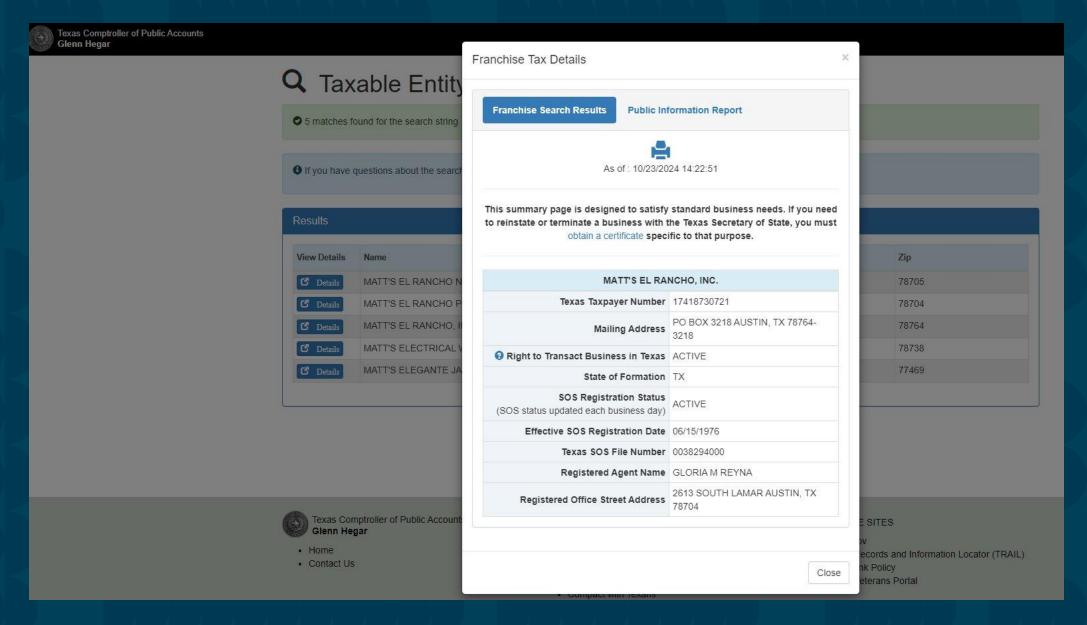
[Disclaimer]



## Find sales tax rates



### Search for businesses



## State Tax Automated Research (STAR) system



# easy online access to an extensive collection of documents all about.

Any unresolved tax questions after searching STAR may be submitted here

### State Tax Automated Research System

Welcome to the State Tax Automated Research (STAR) System, your online policy resource center.

The Comptroller of Public Accounts maintains the STAR system as a public service. STAR provides access to a variety of document types that may be useful in researching Texas tax law and tax policy. Documents that provide the Comptroller's interpretation of the tax laws are accurate for the time periods and facts presented in the documents.

#### Recent Updates

We recently made changes to the categories of searchable documents on STAR. The following is a list of the different categories now available along with their related suffix:

 AG Opinion (A)
 Publications (P)

 Court Case (C)
 Rule (R)

 Emergency Rule (E)
 Statute (S)

Hearing/Comptroller's Decision (H) TPN Articles (N)

Letters (L) Taxability Response (T)

Memos (M) Web Content (W)

You can find a description of each of these document types <a href="here">here</a>. Some changes to note are that memos, publications and web pages were previously categorized as Letters. Now they have their own categories. Because they have been recategorized, the previous STAR numbers will appear at the bottom of the documents. For example, a user might be looking for 202302004L. The search engine will return the document as 202302004M (because it was recategorized as a Memo) but the previous accession number (202302004L) will appear at the bottom of the document.

The Advanced Search feature has also changed. Previously, the Search defaulted to select all document types. Now a user must select one or more of the document types to be located. The STAR User Guide is currently being updated to provide more information on these changes and how to use the system. We will also be adding FAQs to provide help in navigating the new version of STAR.

#### DISCLATMER

Documents on STAR that no longer represent current policy may be completely or partially superseded, but there is no assurance that a document on STAR represents current policy even if it has not been marked.

Tax laws are complex and subject to change. Interpretations of the laws may be affected by administrative hearings, court opinions, attorney general opinions and similar authorities. STAR is a research tool, not a substitute for legal advice. If there is a conflict between the law and the information found on STAR, decisions by the Comptroller's office will be based on the law.

SIMPLE QUERY

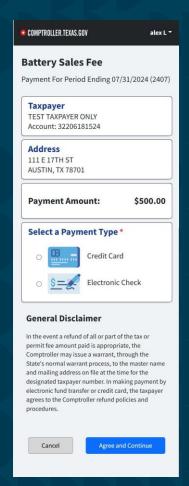


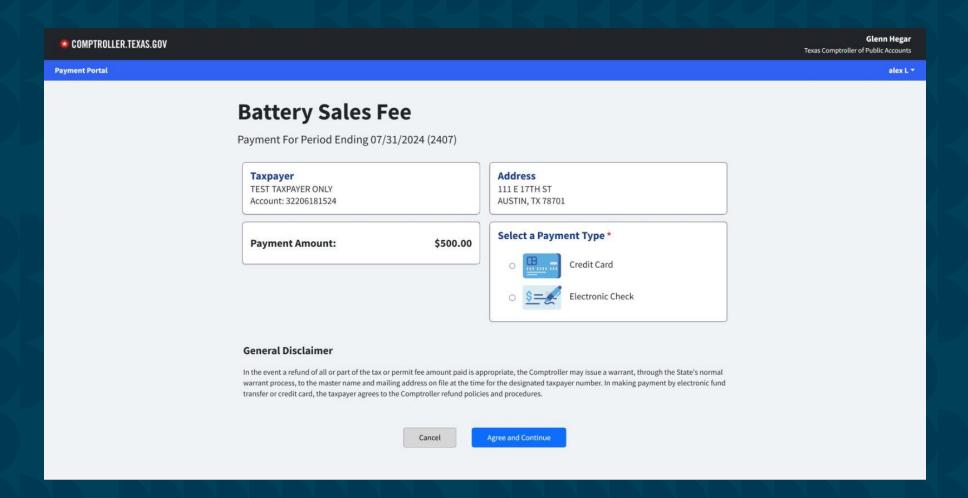
### The New STAR User Guide is here!

### Search tips:

- If you receive a "no search results" error when using the advanced query page, check to see if you selected a document type to search. If you want all document types, there is a box labeled "select/deselect all"
- If you are searching for documents that contain a specific statutory reference with a decimal point e.g., 151.006, surround the term with quotation marks-"151.006"
- Make sure to enter the comma when searching for a Hearing--enter Hearing No. 33,089 instead of 33089.
- To search for a phrase, surround it with "quotation marks"-"credit card processing fees"

# State Tax Automated Research (STAR) system





# POLL

# What do you think is the most important feature on a good state website/portal?

- User-friendly interface and navigation
- Secure communication and data protection
- Payment flexibility and integration
- Efficient filing and amending processes
- Comprehensive reporting and data access
- Other

Using technology for resources and transparency in tax administration



St. Louis, MO

Latitude: 38.6270025 Longitude: -90.19940419999999 Jurisdiction Code: 65000-510-000

### Sales Tax

See details or change tax type or item tax

Tax Rate

Current

9.6790%

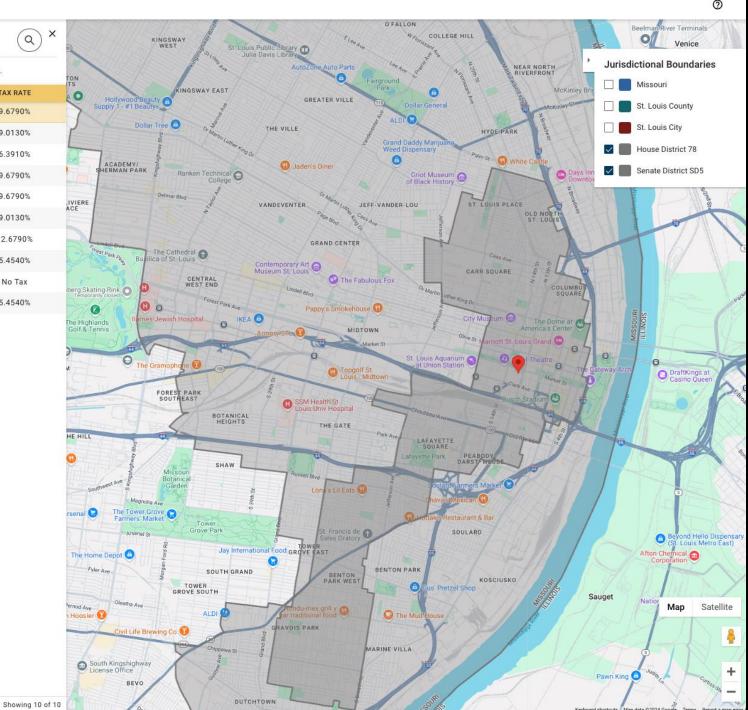
9.6790%

Overview		6	
	Question	Expor	

Tax Rate Details	
Missouri	
Sales Tax	4.2250%
St. Louis County	
Sales Tax	No Tax
St. Louis City	
Sales Tax	5.4540%

Total Tax Rate:

(Q) Tax Type or Item Tax Select an item from the matrix below to get a breakdown of the rate. TAX TYPE/ITEM TAX TAX RATE 9.6790% Sales Tax Use Tax (Vendor's and Consumer's) 9.0130% Food 6.3910% Motor Vehicle Titling Tax - Missouri Dealer 9.6790% 9.6790% Motor Vehicle Titling Tax - Non-Missouri Dealer Motor Vehicle Titling Tax - Manufactured Home Use Tax 9.0130% Adult Use Marijuana 12.6790% **Battery Manufacturing** 5.4540% Domestic Utilities No Tax Textbook 5.4540%



# Challenges states face

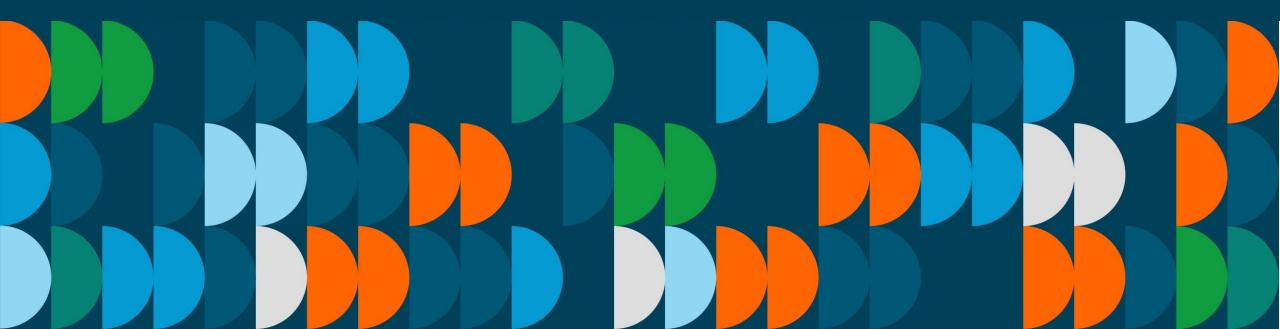


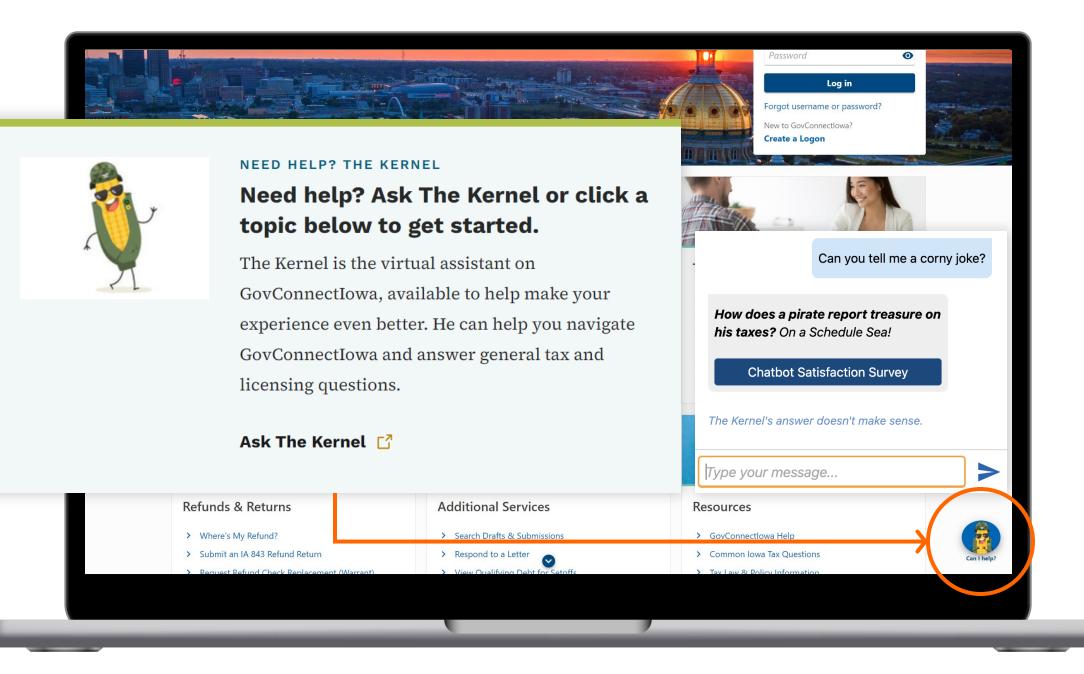
# POLL

# What types of resources are most helpful to you in your role?

- Access to current tax rates and regulations
- Educational resources and training
- Tax compliance software
- Access to legal and tax advisors
- Reporting and record-keeping tools

# How tax administration is changing





# POLL

# Do you think states should use technology more or less?

- O More
- O Less
- O Not at all
- O As much as possible



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