The Department of Revenue has recently been contacted about a text messaging scam targeting businesses. The scam is asking them to follow a link to a fraudulent website and pay a fee for filing their federal Beneficial Ownership Information (BOI), when this is a free service. Here's an example of this scam text message:

Federal Filing Required For (business name here) Your business Must File a BOI Report. File Now! https:// Management (Note to customer: Do not click on any links.) Text STOP to opt-out (Note to customer: Don't text STOP to opt-out)

If you have received a fraudulent email or text asking you to follow a link to file your BOI and pay a fee, please ignore it and report the fraud on the <u>Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN)</u> website or with the <u>Federal Trade Commission</u>.

Here is the alert on the FinCen site:

Alert: FinCEN has learned of fraudulent attempts to solicit information from individuals and entities who may be subject to reporting requirements under the Corporate Transparency Act.

These fraudulent scams may include:

- Correspondence requesting payment. There is NO fee to file BOI directly with FinCEN. FinCEN does
 NOT send correspondence requesting payment to file BOI. Do not send money in response to any
 mailing that claims to be from FinCEN or another government agency.
- Correspondence that asks the recipient to click on a URL or to scan a QR code. Those e-mails or letters are fraudulent. Do not click any suspicious links or attachments or scan any QR codes in emails, on websites, or in any unsolicited mailings.
- Correspondence that references a "Form 4022," or an "Important Compliance Notice." This
 correspondence is fraudulent. FinCEN does not have a "Form 4022." Do not send BOI to anyone by
 completing these forms.
- Correspondence or other documents referencing a "US Business Regulations Dept." This correspondence is fraudulent; there is no government entity by this name.