FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, April 30, 2020
Contact: Rusty Cannon, Vice President, Utah Taxpayers Association
(801) 721-7136

The Utah Taxpayers Association Calls On All Utah Counties to Follow the Example Of Weber County and Waive Penalties and Interest On Personal Property Tax Returns Until August 15, 2020

April 30, 2020 - The Utah Taxpayers Association is urging all county governments to follow the example of Weber County and waive all penalties and interest on personal property tax returns that are due on May 15, 2020.

Many Utah businesses that have been hit the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic are also the ones that quite often have to file and pay a personal property tax return. Restaurants, hotels, retailers, manufacturers and others with machinery and equipment essential to operations are struggling financially and the payment due on May 15, 2020 could not be coming at a worse time. Waiving penalties and interest until August 15, 2020 gives needed time and relief to these critical small to medium sized businesses that provide a majority of jobs in Utah.

This solution does not reduce revenue to local governments since the tax would still need to be paid, however taxpayers would be protected from harmful penalties and interest for an extra three months. This will also protect businesses at risk due to the COVID-19 pandemic as they hope to open up more fully in the coming few months. Several other tax deadlines have already been extended to provide relief and this mirrors that effort.

We urge all county assessors to help and protect taxpayers, like Weber County has done. This is the right thing to do and could provide critical breathing room to Utah businesses and taxpayers alongside other measures being taken by the federal government as well as the state of Utah during this crisis.

Cc: Brandy Grace, CEO, Utah Association of Counties