

Sun Journal

Education, taxes and generosity

Editorial

April 14, 2012

Taxpayers in Maine and Massachusetts usually get a break on filing deadlines for federal and state income tax returns, thanks to the annual Patriots' Day holiday.

This year, the entire nation gets a break on filing federal returns because the traditional deadline of April 15 falls on a Sunday, and the Internal Revenue Service has extended the deadline yet another day because April 16 falls on Emancipation Day in the District of Columbia. Most states have likewise extended the deadline, except Nebraska, where state returns have to be filed by the 15th.

So, if you haven't gotten your taxes done yet, there's still time.

And, if you haven't gotten your taxes done yet, please consider checking off the box to contribute to the Maine Clean Election Fund. Doing so neither raises your individual taxes nor reduces your refund, but it helps fund "clean" legislative and gubernatorial races from general revenue.

Maine's clean election format makes it possible for people with political will but without personal wealth to seek elective office, ensuring that our citizen Legislature is populated with ordinary citizens with extraordinary desire for public service.

That's an ideal worth supporting.

Check the box.