

Secretary of State John Gale announced that domestic and foreign business corporations can now file their Nebraska biennial occupation tax reports online. The reports are due March 1.

"I am excited about our progress with online filings, which can greatly ease the paperwork by business owners and can significantly ease the normal deluge of paperwork handled by my office," Gale said.

He noted there were 43,347 domestic business corporations and 10,271 foreign business corporations registered in Nebraska in 2008.

"I understand the concerns of business owners and operators about government red tape and paper-filing headaches," he added.

When Gale became secretary of state in 2000, two of his priorities were to use technology to reduce paperwork and to make it easier to do business in Nebraska.

"The use of electronic government has multiple benefits," he said. "It is quick and free of postal delivery issues; it makes our services equally and immediately accessible to citizens from Harrison to Falls City; and it reduces costs of document storage by eliminating paper forms as well as the need for additional state employees to handle growth of business filings," he said.

Annual reports of limited liability partnerships, which are due April 1, also may be filed online. Online filings of these reports were initiated last year.

The online filings can be done by accessing www.sos.ne.gov, with payments being made by credit card or electronic check.

Limited liability companies were able to file their biennial reports online in 2009. Biennial reports for nonprofit corporations are scheduled for conversion to online service in 2011.