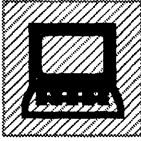
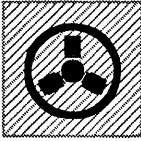
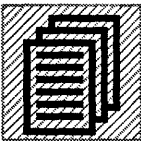


Business telefiling



Many merchants like seamstress Joyce Hicks of Severna Park, Maryland, benefit from the speed and convenience of business telefiling offered by the State Comptroller's Office.

Taking a cue from a familiar phone ad urging us to "reach out and touch someone," Comptroller Goldstein has answered the call for service by reaching out and helping thousands of businesses save time and paper.

Since December, 1995, thousands of businesses that don't owe Maryland sales and use tax or employer withholding tax have been able to file their required reports by telephone.

These thousands of businesses filing by telephone have saved thousands of dollars in processing costs and eliminated the processing and storage of paper reports from those businesses - keeping 50,000 documents out of the pipeline during fiscal year 1996.

Taxpayers who need more time to file personal tax returns have also been able to telefile their request for an extension of time if they owe no additional tax.

More than 29,000 extension requests were telefiled during the 1996 filing season - again, saving paper processing costs and helping many taxpayers quickly and easily meet their filing obligation.

