

## **IAMU**

### **International Association of Modem Users**

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### **Welcome to the International Association of Modem Users!**

#### **Dedication:**

The IAMU is dedicated to the skeptics that said, "Modem Taxes could never become a reality because they would be virtually impossible to enforce."

#### **What Started All of This Anyway:**

The -IAMU- was conceived as a method of verifying "Modem Tax" reports that have been circulating for several years on Bulletin Board Systems, International Echo-Mail Networks like InterNet, RIME, FIDO, and U'NI-NET and on the major on-line services of CompuServe Delphi.

There have been so many "HOAXES" about these issues, that when "REAL" Modem Tax type cases were discovered and reported, most Modem Users cast them aside as being "another hoax". This is dangerous because it perpetuates apathy and ignorance as a matter of routine, when a more proactive approach is required to protect the rights of Modem Users.

This "general attitude" has the effect of giving legislators "carte blanche" to design laws that seek to further their own agendas, as opposed to designing laws only at the bequest of "the public" (ie. general ballot, petition or referendum).

When we first began to distribute information about the "**Channel 1 BBS vs. Massachusetts Department of Revenue**" case, it took several days for everyone to realize that it was indeed, no hoax.

There does exist "entities" that seek to design and implement tax laws (and other legislative schemes) to increase their coffers.

They are doing this without mandates or demands from the general public, much less conduct public hearings or meetings to ascertain the will of the people.

These cases must be identified and reported. It is essential that these "entities" are made aware, in no uncertain terms, that they have no business writing "their own" legislation without full public input, disclosure and participation by those who will be most affected: The Modem Users!

## **Primary Purpose:**

The **IAMU** is an international "association" of people that use electronic modems to communicate and exchange information with other **Modem Users**.

The **IAMU** is an **educational organization** dedicated to increase global awareness of "modem related" issues. Such issues include (but are not limited to) the design or use of political devices, regulations, policies and practices that seek to monitor, tax, restrict or "control" the "free flow" of communications and information between Modem Users, around the world.

The **IAMU** is dedicated to the research, verification and dissemination of accurate information about these issues to it's **Members** and to the general public.

The **Association** is not a passive organization. All **Members** are required to participate in one way or another. Each **Member** is considered to be valuable as an individual and as a **Member** of the **Association**, therefore, all **Members** (in good standing) are required to vote on major issues presented by the **Steering Committee**. **In this Association, every opinion and every vote is accounted for.**

Attached is a **Request for Membership** and details about the **Association's "Custom Forum"** which is available courtesy of Delphi (General Videotext Corp.)

On behalf of the International Association of Modem Users, I welcome you if you are ready to take a stand on communications issues and are willing to participate in a professional and pro-active way to educate others about "modem-related" issues that concern all of us.

Sincerely,

**/signed/**

**James Leonard**

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**-IAMU- International Association of Modem Users**

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