



WESTPORT CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF TAX COLLECTOR
George W. Underhill, CCMC
TAX COLLECTOR

March 3, 2008

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Planning and Development Committee. Thank you for allowing me to speak to you today about 2 of the 31 raised bills listed on your agenda.

My name is George Underhill; I am the Tax Collector for the Town of Westport and have been for 15 years. I am also the Legislative Chairman for the Connecticut Tax Collectors Association, Inc. With me today is my colleague, William Donlin, Tax Collector for Cheshire. Bill will also address this body today.

My mission is simple; convince the members of this Committee not to allow Tax loopholes in the State Statutes that benefit delinquent taxpayers.

Raised bills that allow delinquent taxpayers immunity from the Tax Collector.

Item #2 S.B. no 373 AAC collection of delinquent motor vehicles.
CTX OPPOSES THIS BILL

As many of you know, there is a 15-year statute of limitations in Connecticut for the collection of Taxes. This bill would cap motor vehicle penalty (delinquency) charges at 3 years unless re-billed and extinguished completely after 6 years. This is unfair to taxpayers that pay correctly and on time. It would also deprive municipalities revenues they are entitled to that would have to be made up by someone else.

Item #20 H.B. no 5639 (re: St. Statute 12-146a) CTX SUPPORTS THIS BILL
Rep. Elizabeth Ritter 38th Dist. introduced this bill at the request of Connecticut Tax Collectors Association, Inc. (CTX)

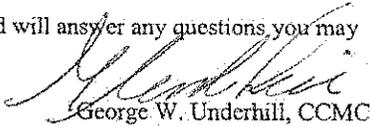
This bill as it stands now allows Health Permit holders the ability to renew their permits even if they haven't paid their personal property taxes for a period of not less than one year.

We (CTX) recommend the sentence referring to delinquent tax allowance be struck from 12-146a but leaving the remainder of the statute in place.

This is a collection tool for Tax Collectors (withholding or revoking Health Permits) and is a voluntary co-operative effort by the Health District.

It is unfair to other taxpayers to allow certain businesses to be exempt from some taxes while benefiting from services, i.e., fire, police, public works, etc without paying their fair share of taxes that support these services.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to testify and will answer any questions you may have.


George W. Underhill, CCMC
CTX Legislative Chairman