



**OFFICE OF THE TAX COLLECTOR
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**Testimony of C.J. Cuticello
City of New Haven Tax Collector
Planning and Development Committee
March 3, 2008**

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Planning and Development Committee, Thank you for giving me this opportunity to address your committee regarding two bills raised that affect the collection of delinquent taxes.

My name is C.J. Cuticello; I am the Tax Collector of the City of New Haven. I have held this position for the past 7 years.

The reason I am here today along with my colleges from other municipalities is to stand together and express our opinions' and convince the members of this Committee not to allow the proposed changes in the State Statutes and would benefit delinquent non payers.

**S.B. 373 Collection of Delinquent Property Taxes on Motor Vehicles.
The City of New Haven opposes this bill.**

The Connecticut General Statues currently has a 15 year statute of limitations for the collection of all taxes. This bill as written would cap motor vehicle delinquency charges to 3 years unless the Tax Collector re-billed the delinquent tax and would be extinguished after 6 years. This is not only unfair to taxpayers that pay on time but a burden to them as well as to the municipality. Automobile taxes are difficult to collect as it stands today let alone allowing this bills to pass. This bill would drive up the cost to taxpayers and I stress the use of the word Taxpayers because these are the people that bear the burden of higher taxes not the people that do not pay on time or the people that do not pay at all. . This bill would also deprive municipalities the ability to collect desperately needed and entitled to revenue.

**H.B. 5639 Revocation of Health Permits for Failure to Pay Personal Property Taxes
The City of New Haven supports this bill.**

As a member of the Connecticut Tax Collector's Association I as the Tax Collector of the City of New Haven and for the City of New Haven support this bill as introduced.