AN ACT CONCERNING INTEREST OWED ON PROPERTY TAXES BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES ON ACTIVE DUTY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 12-146 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2011, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2011):

Unless the context otherwise requires, wherever used in this section, "tax" includes each property tax and each installment and part thereof due to a municipality as it may have been increased by interest, fees and charges. If any tax due in a single installment or if any installment of any tax due in two or more installments is not paid in full (1) on or before the first day of the month next succeeding the month in which it became due and payable, or if not due and payable on the first day of the month, (2) on or before the same date of the next succeeding month corresponding to that of the month on which it became due and payable, the whole or such part of such installment as is unpaid shall thereupon be delinquent and shall be subject to interest from the due date of such delinquent installment. Except for unpaid real estate taxes the collection of which was, or is, deferred under the provisions of
section 12-174, and any predecessor and successor thereto, which
unpaid real estate taxes continue to be subject to the provisions of such
defered collection statutes, the delinquent portion of the principal of
any tax shall be subject to interest at the rate of eighteen per cent per
annum from the time when it became due and payable until the same
is paid, subject to a minimum interest charge of two dollars which any
municipality, by vote of its legislative body, may elect not to impose,
and provided, in any computation of such interest, under any
provision of this section, each fractional part of a month in which any
portion of the principal of such tax remains unpaid shall be considered
to be equivalent to a whole month. Each addition of interest shall
become, and shall be collectible as, a part of such tax. Interest shall
accrue at said rate until payment of such taxes due notwithstanding
the entry of any judgment in favor of the municipality against the
taxpayer or the property of the taxpayer. Except as hereinafter
specified for taxes representing two or more items of property, the
collector shall not receive any partial payment of a delinquent tax
which is less than the total accrued interest on the principal of such tax
up to the date of payment and shall apply each partial payment to the
wiping out of such interest before making any application thereof to
the reduction of such principal; provided, whenever the first partial
payment is made after delinquency, interest from the due date of such
delinquent tax to the date of such partial payment shall be figured on
the whole or such part of the principal of such tax as is unpaid at the
beginning of delinquency and provided, whenever a subsequent
partial payment of such tax is made, interest shall be figured from the
date of payment of the last-preceding, to the date of payment of such
subsequent, partial payment on the whole or such balance of the
principal of such tax as remains unpaid on the date of the last-
preceding partial payment. If any tax, at the time of assessment or
because of a subsequent division, represents two or more items of
property, the collector may receive payment in full of such part of the
principal and interest of such tax as represents one or more of such
items, even though interest in full on the entire amount of the principal
of such tax has not been received up to the date of such payment; in
which event, interest on the remaining portion of the principal of any
such tax shall be computed, as the case may be, from the due date of
such tax if no other payment after delinquency has been made or from
the last date of payment of interest in full on the whole amount or
unpaid balance of the principal of such delinquent tax if previous
payment of interest has been made. Each collector shall keep a separate
account of such interest and the time when the same has been received
and shall pay over the same to the treasurer of the municipality of the
collector as a part of such tax. No tax or installment thereof shall be
construed to be delinquent under the provisions of this section if the
envelope containing the amount due as such tax or installment, as
received by the tax collector of the municipality to which such tax is
payable, bears a postmark showing a date within the time allowed by
statute for the payment of such tax or installment. Any municipality
may, by vote of its legislative body, require that any delinquent
property taxes applicable with respect to a motor vehicle shall be paid
only in cash or by certified check or money order. Any municipality
adopting such requirement may provide that such requirement shall
only be applicable to delinquency exceeding a certain period in
duration as determined by such municipality. Any municipality shall
waive all or a portion of the interest due and payable under this
section on a delinquent tax with respect to a taxpayer who has
received compensation under chapter 968 as a crime victim. Any
municipality may waive all or a portion of the interest accrued on any
delinquent tax owed by a member of the armed forces, as defined in
subsection (a) of section 27-103, who was on active duty and absent
from this state when such tax was due and such interest accrued.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:

| Section 1 | October 1, 2011, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2011 | 12-146 |
Statement of Purpose:
To provide municipalities with the option of waiving the interest accrued on any property tax if such interest is owed by a member of the armed forces who was on active duty outside of Connecticut at the time such tax was due and such interest accrued.

Co-Sponsors: SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.; REP. DILLON, 92nd Dist.

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