

I am the Deputy Collector in the City Waterbury and the monthly costs for legal notices cost our City approximately \$ 11,000 monthly. These are the mandated costs for publication costs associated with the municipal tax auction process in the recovery of our debt. The legal notices mandated by statute, prior to each installment collection period cost \$ 1000.00 yearly. The high cost of mandated notices/publications per CGS 12-157 (auction) are a burden to the operation during the important collection of municipal debt. The local paper we are forced to use in order to publish the required notices holds us hostage with their exorbitant fees. We are not afforded a reduction by them even though they have a high volume business from us. We are required post the notices in a newspaper with a weekly circulation. Our newspaper even demands the payment up front before the notices run. There is only one available to us in this locale. Lack of competition or a monopoly on a service is always bad for the ultimate consumer. This fee is ultimately passed on to the beleaguered taxpayer who must repay all fees and costs during the redemptive period. This measure would afford them some relief. Please pass this bill.

Karen Mulcahy Deputy Collector Waterbury