

Testimony in Opposition to Raised Bill SB 1135

An Act Concerning the Municipal Interest Rate Applicable to Delinquent Property Taxes

I am writing in opposition to this bill to allow a local option to reduce the interest rate on delinquent taxes.

- The interest rate of 18% is not meant to be punitive to the taxpayers but rather compensatory to the municipality for the unpaid taxes and is in line with general practice on delinquent billing for other services.
- Reducing this rate would give an incentive to delinquent taxpayers to pay their other delinquent bills instead of their property taxes thereby penalizing other taxpayers who pay their taxes on time.
- By having different local interest rates for delinquent taxes you create an incentive for people and especially businesses to look for a different municipality in which to locate their motor vehicles and personal property. This will pit municipalities against each other and create further inequality for everyone.

Jane Berendsen-Hill
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