

This letter is respectfully submitted in opposition to SB 1135 which would grant each of Connecticut's municipalities the authority to revise the 18% interest rate applied to delinquent property taxes.

This opposition is based on the following concerns. As you know, Tax Collectors are governed by Connecticut General Statute which provides for, and indeed requires, a uniform and consistent application of the law across the State. This uniformity of approach in such critical and sensitive area is indeed the great strength of the current framework. The assurance that each tax payer and tax collector has in the certain knowledge that they are being treated in the same fashion in Wethersfield as they would be in Putnam or New Milford or Waterford leads to strong confidence in the current system. To replace this well-functioning system with one that that will devolve into a patchwork quilt of varying rates and with it likely unimagined unintended consequences simply does not make sense. Furthermore, the current system has been established to promote the timely payment of taxes due. To allow for a system that reduces this incentive is ultimately unfair to the vast majority of tax payers who pay on time by making delinquency an easier and more appealing option for taxpayers.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Tax Collector
Town of Wethersfield