

From: Scott M. Ferguson, CCMC, Tax Collector, City of Danbury, CT

Date: May 2, 2019

Re: SB 1135 1135 An Act Concerning the Municipal Interest Rate Applicable to Delinquent Property Taxes

Testimony AGAINST SB 1135 An Act Concerning the Municipal Interest Rate
Applicable to Delinquent Property Taxes

I am the Tax Collector for the City of Danbury, and past President of the CT Tax Collectors Association. The most important factor of tax collection is the uniformity that exists between all municipalities. This uniformity means all municipalities follow the same statutes and collect in the same manner, making tax collection an even playing field where no municipality has an advantage or disadvantage over another. Once this uniformity is allowed to change, municipalities will have inconsistent collection practices, which will allow taxpayers to pit towns and cities against each other. In order to avoid this from happening, only the state should set the delinquent interest rate.

Therefore, I oppose SB 1135, which would allow municipalities to set their own delinquent interest rate, as this will cause issues between municipalities. The State of Connecticut should continue to set the rate, which will maintain the uniformity between municipalities.

Thank you for your allowing me the opportunity for input and considering my testimony.