

CONNECTICUT TAX COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

May 2, 2019

Testimony AGAINST SB 1135

An Act concerning the Interest on Delinquent Property Taxes

As Tax Collector of Voluntown, I am opposed to SB 1135, an act concerning the Interest Rate on Delinquent Property Taxes.

The uniformity in which Connecticut Tax Collector's collect taxes is what makes the system strong and free of political influence. I believe that the inconsistency in the interest rate will cause issues between the towns, as comparisons are made.

The 18% per annum encourages payment to be made. It is easily explained as it is covered statewide under the Connecticut General Statutes. It encourages delinquent tax payers to pay in a timely manner, without passing the burden to taxpayers that pay on time. There is no question of the interest set, as it is fair and equitable across the state.

I believe that the consistency in the current law is key to avoiding favoritism and political pull. It is the foundation of a strong system which helps in the collection of delinquent taxes. Property taxes are what support many of the smaller towns at this point. If there is pressure to cut the interest rate, the towns will suffer.

Thank you for your time.

Giselle J. Neri
Tax Collector
Town of Voluntown