April 30, 2019

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

As Tax Collector for the Town of Killingworth, I am opposed to SB 1135, which would allow municipalities a local option to charge an interest rate less than 18% on delinquent property taxes.

The municipal property tax structure is governed by the Connecticut General State Statutes, which requires all municipalities to act in a consistent manner. It is important for all Tax Collectors to maintain uniformity and consistency when collecting taxes. A uniform interest rate ensures that taxes will be collected fairly with no favoritism given to anyone. In addition, the interest rate of 18% is designed to encourage taxpayers to make timely payments.

Allowing a local option for municipalities to set their own interest rate will weaken the strength of Tax Collectors. By maintaining a uniform interest rate for all municipalities, it shows that residents will be treated equally regardless of which town they reside in.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony opposing SB 1135,

Michele Nuhn, CCMC
Tax Collector
Town of Killingworth