May 6, 2019

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

As the Tax Collector for the Town of Roxbury, I am submitting testimony opposed to SB 1135.

Our Administrations depend on us to bring in the necessary revenue in order for our towns to operate. A rate of 18% interest is meant to encourage tax payments to be made on time. I believe that a lower rate will cause more delinquencies because a tax payer will have less incentive to pay on time. As it now stands, delinquent taxes are the most difficult to collect.

Lastly, allowing municipalities to establish their own interest rates could possibly have the potential to create political issues in turn putting the revenue needs of the town at risk.

I urge you to please reject Senate Bill 1135.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Pokrywka
Tax Collector, Roxbury