

February 26, 2021

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Assistant Tax Collector – Town of Bethany

Testimony

Raised Bill No. 941 An Act Concerning The Assignment of Certain Property, Tax, Water and Sewer Liens.

I am opposed to Raised Bill No. 941 which would reduce the interest on any tax liens filed by a municipality that have been assigned by said municipality.

Uniformity across the state ensures equity across the board. The 18% interest rate is meant to be a bit painful; it is designed to encourage property tax payments to be made on time. The proposed legislation would create a different, lower rate of interest on delinquent real property as of the date of assignment. In effect, you would be rewarding the taxpayers who are so delinquent their liens had to be assigned and penalizing the payer who is working to catch up and not assigned.

Municipal tax collectors strive to be efficient, effective, and equitable. By authorizing varied rates of delinquent interest, you are creating an inequity.

As the assignment of liens is a collection tool many municipalities use, if this legislation were to pass, I believe it would be a great dis-service to all the on-time taxpayers.

I oppose Raised Bill No. 941