

Senate, April 6, 1998. The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through SEN. LOONEY, 11th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REPEALING CERTAIN PROVISIONS REQUIRING THE COLLECTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS AND FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS BY MUNICIPAL TAX COLLECTORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 12-148 of the general
2 statutes, as amended by section 18 of public act
3 97-47 and section 20 of public act 97-309, is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
5 thereof:

6 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any
7 general statute or special act, [and except as
8 otherwise provided by this section,] the tax
9 collector of any municipality may use names and
10 numbers or numbers only to identify the persons
11 from whom moneys are collected each month in
12 accordance with the provisions of section 12-147.
13 Such tax collector may use any tax accounting
14 system which has been approved by the Secretary of
15 the Office of Policy and Management to list such
16 names and numbers or numbers only.

17 (b) Numbers used under subsection (a) of this
18 section may be Social Security numbers established
19 under the Social Security Act, (42 USC 301 et
20 seq.), as amended from time to time.

21 Notwithstanding the provisions of the Freedom of
22 Information Act, as defined in section 1-18a, AS
23 AMENDED, [and except as otherwise provided in this
24 section,] the tax collector shall withhold from
25 disclosure to any person or state or municipal
26 board, commission, department or agency any Social
27 Security number provided to the tax collector
28 under this [section] SUBSECTION or under section
29 14-163, AS AMENDED BY THIS ACT.

30 (c) [For purposes of administration of state
31 taxes, each municipal tax collector shall,
32 commencing no later than October 1, 1998, collect
33 from each person from whom property tax is
34 collected, a Social Security number, if the person
35 is an individual, or federal employer
36 identification number, if the person is not an
37 individual, and shall provide such information to
38 the Commissioner of Revenue Services to establish
39 the identification of persons affected by the tax
40 laws of the state. Each person from whom property
41 tax is collected shall provide to the municipal
42 tax collector, in the case of a person who is an
43 individual, such person's Social Security number
44 or, in the case of a person who is not an
45 individual, such person's federal employer
46 identification number.] Any person receiving funds
47 from a mortgagor WHO IS AN INDIVIDUAL WITH RESPECT
48 TO A MORTGAGE ON REAL PROPERTY SITUATED IN
49 CONNECTICUT WHICH FUNDS ARE to be held in escrow
50 for payment of property taxes shall [provide to
51 such collector, in the case of a mortgagor who is
52 an individual,] FILE AN INFORMATIONAL RETURN WITH
53 THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE SERVICES SHOWING such
54 mortgagor's Social Security number, [or, in the
55 case of a mortgagor who is not an individual, such
56 mortgagor's federal employer identification
57 number. A municipal tax collector shall not be
58 required to collect any Social Security number,
59 for a person who is an individual, or any federal
60 employer identification number, for a person who
61 is not an individual, if such collector has been
62 provided such number under section 14-163] THE
63 AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAXES PAID BY SUCH PERSON
64 RECEIVING FUNDS FROM SUCH MORTGAGOR DURING THE
65 PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR AND SUCH OTHER INFORMATION
66 AS THE COMMISSIONER MAY PRESCRIBE.

67 [(d) The tax collector shall, on or before
68 February 1, 2000, and February first, annually

69 thereafter, furnish to the Commissioner of Revenue
70 Services, on a compatible magnetic tape file or in
71 some other form which is acceptable to the
72 commissioner, a list of all persons from whom
73 property tax was collected during the preceding
74 calendar year or from whom property tax was due
75 but not collected during the preceding calendar
76 year. Each list provided to the commissioner
77 pursuant to this subsection shall contain the
78 name, address and Social Security number or
79 federal employer identification number of each
80 person named on such list, the amount of property
81 tax collected and the date or dates on which it
82 was collected, and, if the property tax was due
83 but not collected, the amount of tax not
84 collected.

85 (e) No tax credit otherwise allowable to a
86 person under the provisions of the general
87 statutes on account of the payment of property
88 taxes to a Connecticut municipality shall be
89 allowed to any person who does not furnish to a
90 municipal tax collector, as required by this
91 section, such person's Social Security number or
92 federal employer identification number.]

93 Sec. 2. Section 14-163 of the general
94 statutes, as amended by section 21 of public act
95 97-309 and section 7 of public act 97-322, is
96 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
97 thereof:

98 The commissioner, on or before the first day
99 of December, annually, shall furnish to the tax
100 assessors in each town a list containing the names
101 and addresses of the owners of motor vehicles and
102 snowmobiles residing in their respective towns, as
103 they appear by the records of the Department of
104 Motor Vehicles, with a description of such
105 vehicles. The commissioner shall, on or before
106 December 1, 2000, and December first, annually
107 thereafter, furnish to [the tax assessors in each
108 town and to] the Commissioner of Revenue Services
109 a list containing the names, addresses and federal
110 Social Security account numbers or federal
111 employer identification numbers, or both, if
112 available, of the owners of motor vehicles
113 [residing in their respective towns,] as they
114 appear by the records of the Department of Motor
115 Vehicles, [with a description] AND THE VEHICLE
116 IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS of such vehicles, in order

117 to establish the identification of persons
118 affected by the tax laws of the state.
119 [Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 1-15,
120 1-18a, 1-19 to 1-19b, inclusive, and 1-21 to
121 1-21k, inclusive, and except as otherwise provided
122 by this section, the tax assessor in each town
123 shall not disclose to any person or state or
124 municipal board, commission, department or agency
125 any Social Security number or federal employer
126 identification number furnished to such assessor
127 under this section, except that the tax assessor
128 shall disclose such Social Security numbers or
129 federal employer identification numbers to the tax
130 collector in such town, for the purposes of
131 section 12-148.]
132 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect from its
133 passage, except that section 2 shall take effect
134 October 1, 1999.

135 FIN COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 43 NAY 0 JFS

* * * * *

"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

* * * * *

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER sSB 541

STATE IMPACT	None, see explanation below
MUNICIPAL IMPACT	See Explanation Below
STATE AGENCY(S)	Department of Revenue Services, Department of Motor Vehicles, Office of Policy and Management,

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

STATE IMPACT: By requiring mortgage companies and banks to file an informational return showing the mortgagor's social security number, amount of property taxes paid, and the vehicle identification numbers, there is a minimal fiscal impact since DRS will be provided with information necessary for auditing most tax returns.

MUNICIPAL IMPACT: Repealing the requirement that municipal tax collectors provide taxpayer information to the Department of Revenue Services removes the municipal cost to collect the information. Repealing the requirement also precludes any revenue gain from an enhanced ability to collect delinquent property taxes.

* * * * *

OFA BILL ANALYSIS

sSB 541

AN ACT REPEALING CERTAIN PROVISIONS REQUIRING THE COLLECTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS AND FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS BY MUNICIPAL TAX COLLECTORS

SUMMARY: This bill repeals the requirements that tax collectors get each property taxpayer's Social Security Number (SSN) or Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) and furnish it to the Department of Revenue Services (DRS). It instead requires mortgage companies and banks that hold funds in escrow for payment of property taxes to file an informational return with DRS showing the mortgagor's Social Security Number, the amount of property taxes paid from the escrow and the vehicle identification numbers, for taxes paid on motor vehicles.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage and Section 2 is effective October 1, 1999

COMMITTEE ACTION

Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 43 Nay 0