

# Planning and Development Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No:** HB-5498 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO STATUTES RELATING TO

**Title:** MUNICIPAL TAX COLLECTION.

**Vote Date:** 3/13/2026

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 3/11/2026

**File No.:**

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Planning and Development Committee

### REASONS FOR BILL:

HB 5498 aims to propose numerous sections that would revise current municipal tax collection statutes. The eleven measures work in various capacities, from establishing a rate bill deadline and making small language revisions, to preventing unnecessary interest accrual and adding clarifications on tax sales.

Considered “minor” changes by many in the industry, the effort is intended to increase efficiency in the municipal revenue collection space.

### SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE (IF APPLICABLE):

Section 12 was added to make a change in a tax sale statute in order to conform to the changes made in Section 11.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

#### **Office of Policy and Management, Undersecretary, Martin Heft:**

Supports HB 5498’s intentions to streamline and modernize tax collection procedures and processes. Mr. Heft shares that many of the provisions are relevant to last session’s legislation and how amendments are purely technical in nature.

### NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

**Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, Associate Director, Randy Collins:**

Supports the bill and the idea behind changing components of the municipal tax collection statutes.

**CT Tax Collectors Association, General Counsel, Adam Cohen:**

Also, as an attorney with the law firm Pullman & Comely, he supports the bill's minor amendments, which permit more efficient revenue enforcement functions at the municipal level.

**CT Tax Collectors Association, Treasurer, Cory Gumbrewicz:**

**CT Tax Collectors Association, Legislative Committee Chairman, Peter Juszczynski:**

**CT Tax Collectors Association, President, Lisa Madden:**

**CT Tax Collectors Association, 1st Vice President, David Kluczowski:**

**CT Tax Collectors Association, 2nd Vice President, Kathleen Larkins:**

Request approval of HB 5498 as its minor and technical revisions are designed to streamline tax collection procedures. They affirm that changes will improve clarity in statute, increase efficiency, and support administration across municipalities.

**Town of Winchester, Assistant Collector of Revenue, Pamela Colombie:**

**Town of Manchester, Assistant Collector of Revenue, Patricia Kratochvil:**

**Town of Greenwich, Tax Collector, Heather Smeriglio:**

**Town of Bloomfield, Tax Collector, Ashley DeJesus:**

**City of Torrington, Tax Collector, Launa Goslee:**

**Town of Harwinton, Tax Collector, Beth Hamel:**

**Town of Stafford, Tax Collector, Stephanie Irving:**

**Town of Canton, Tax Collector, Christine Silansky:**

Support the bill and illustrate what work looks like at the local government level. They share that this legislation would stimulate increased efficiency and consider the proposed revisions modest, reasonable, and practical improvements.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

**Cynthia Steckler:**

Opposes the bill, referring to it as unfair, unethical, and undemocratic.

**Anonymous 1022:**

States that the bill goes against the Constitution and only serves to convenience the administrative lives of tax collectors.

**Reported by: Zachary Robinson**

**Date: 3/16/26**