

**TESTIMONY OF  
PETER W. LACY, STAFF ATTORNEY WITH THE OFFICE OF TAX POLICY,  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation  
Hearing Date: *February 7, 2024*

LD 2111 – “*An Act Regarding the Timeline for Property Tax Abatement Based on  
Hardship or Poverty*”

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Senator Grohoski, Representative Perry, and members of the Taxation Committee – good afternoon, my name is Peter Lacy, Staff Attorney with the Office of Tax Policy in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. I am testifying at the request of the Administration Neither For Nor Against LD 2111 - “*An Act Regarding the Timeline for Property Tax Abatement Based on Hardship or Poverty.*”

While the Administration does not oppose the concept of the bill, the bill as drafted does not accomplish its stated goal of aligning the hardship & poverty abatement application deadline with the municipal foreclosure date.

The 18-month timeline for the foreclosure of a municipal tax lien begins with the filing of a tax lien certificate. The new 18-month deadline in the bill for the filing of an abatement application (as well as the 3-year deadline in existing statute) begins instead with the date taxes are committed. The filing of the tax lien certificate occurs 9-13 months after the commitment of taxes.

The Administration looks forward to working with the Committee on the bill; representatives from MRS will be here for the Work Session to provide additional information and respond in detail to the Committee’s questions.