THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2230

Session of 1988

INTRODUCED BY RAYMOND, LANGTRY, HECKLER, DISTLER, REBER, BARLEY, ARTY, CIVERA, VEON AND FLICK, MARCH 14, 1988

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, MARCH 14, 1988

AN ACT

Amending the act of July 7, 1947 (P.L.1368, No.542), entitled, 2 as amended, "An act amending, revising and consolidating the 3 laws relating to delinquent county, city, except of the first and second class and second class A, borough, town, township, 5 school district, except of the first class and school districts within cities of the second class A, and 7 institution district taxes, providing when, how and upon what property, and to what extent liens shall be allowed for such 8 9 taxes, the return and entering of claims therefor; the 10 collection and adjudication of such claims, sales of real property, including seated and unseated lands, subject to the 11 lien of such tax claims; the disposition of the proceeds 12 13 thereof, including State taxes and municipal claims recovered 14 and the redemption of property; providing for the discharge and divestiture by certain tax sales of all estates in 15 16 property and of mortgages and liens on such property, and the 17 proceedings therefor; creating a Tax Claim Bureau in each 18 county, except counties of the first and second class, to act 19 as agent for taxing districts; defining its powers and 20 duties, including sales of property, the management of 21 property taken in sequestration, and the management, sale and 22 disposition of property heretofore sold to the county 23 commissioners, taxing districts and trustees at tax sales; 24 providing a method for the service of process and notices; imposing duties on taxing districts and their officers and on 25 tax collectors, and certain expenses on counties and for 26 27 their reimbursement by taxing districts; and repealing 28 existing laws, "further providing for the rate of interest on 29 delinguent taxes.

- 30 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 31 hereby enacts as follows:

- 1 Section 1. Section 306 of the act of July 7, 1947 (P.L.1368,
- 2 No.542), known as the Real Estate Tax Sale Law, amended July 3,
- 3 1986 (P.L.351, No.81), is amended to read:
- 4 Section 306. Return of Property and Delinquent Taxes;
- 5 Interest; Settlements by Tax Collectors.--
- 6 (a) It shall be the duty of each receiver or collector of
- 7 any county, city, borough, town, township, school district or
- 8 institution district taxes to make a return to the bureau on or
- 9 before the last day of April of each year, but no earlier than
- 10 the first day of January of that year. The return shall be
- 11 typewritten on a form provided by or acceptable to the county
- 12 and shall include a list of all properties against which taxes
- 13 were levied, the whole or any part of which were due and payable
- 14 in the calendar year immediately preceding and which remain
- 15 unpaid, giving the description of each such property as it
- 16 appears in the tax duplicate, and the name and address of the
- 17 owner as it appears in the tax duplicate, together with the
- 18 amount of such unpaid taxes, penalties and interest due to but
- 19 not including the first day of the month following the return.
- 20 Such return shall be accompanied by a signed affidavit that the
- 21 return is correct and complete. Interest shall be charged on
- 22 taxes so returned from and after but not before the first day of
- 23 the month following the return. [Interest shall be charged at
- 24 the rate of nine per centum (9%) per annum.] For taxes paid
- 25 <u>within ninety (90) days of the due date, the interest rate shall</u>
- 26 be nine per centum (9%) per annum. For taxes paid in ninety (90)
- 27 days or more, but less than one hundred fifty (150) days after
- 28 the due date, the interest rate shall be ten per centum (10%).
- 29 For taxes paid one hundred fifty (150) days or more, but less
- 30 than two hundred ten (210) days after the due date, the interest

- 1 rate shall be eleven per centum (11%). For taxes paid two
- 2 <u>hundred ten (210) days or more, but less than two hundred</u>
- 3 <u>seventy (270) days after the due date, the interest rate shall</u>
- 4 be twelve per centum (12%). For taxes paid two hundred seventy
- 5 (270) days or more, but less than three hundred thirty (330)
- 6 days after the due date, the interest rate shall be thirteen per
- 7 centum (13%). For taxes paid three hundred thirty (330) days or
- 8 more, but less than three hundred sixty-five (365) days after
- 9 the due date, the interest rate shall be fourteen per centum
- 10 (14%). For taxes paid three hundred sixty-five (365) days or
- 11 more after the due date interest shall be charged at the rate of
- 12 <u>fifteen per centum (15%) per annum.</u>
- 13 (b) No taxes shall be returned by any tax collector where
- 14 the owner is paying his delinquent taxes under the provisions of
- 15 any act of Assembly abating penalties, interest and costs,
- 16 unless there has been a default in payment by the owner, in
- 17 which case or at any time when a yearly return is being made
- 18 after any such default, return shall be made of the balance due
- 19 as fixed by the act of Assembly abating penalties, interest and
- 20 costs, or either. The lien of all such taxes shall be continued
- 21 for the purpose of making a return thereof and collecting the
- 22 same under the provisions of this act.
- 23 (c) The county commissioners, by resolution, may establish
- 24 and fix a return date, other than the return date prescribed in
- 25 subsection (a), on or before which tax collectors must make the
- 26 return to the bureau required by this section. No return shall
- 27 be made or return date established before the first day of
- 28 January following the year when taxes first become due and
- 29 payable as specified on the tax notice, and no return date shall
- 30 be established which is later than the last day of April

- 1 immediately following the year in which the taxes became due.
- 2 The single return date established and fixed by said resolution
- 3 shall be uniform within the county for all taxes returnable
- 4 under the provisions of this act. Whenever the resolution
- 5 establishes and fixes a return date, interest shall be charged
- 6 on taxes so returned from and after the first day of the month
- 7 immediately following the month in which the return is required.
- 8 [Interest shall be charged at the rate of nine per centum (9%)
- 9 per annum.] For taxes paid within ninety (90) days of the due
- 10 date, the interest rate shall be nine per centum (9%) per annum.
- 11 For taxes paid in ninety (90) days or more, but less than one
- 12 <u>hundred fifty (150) days after the due date, the interest rate</u>
- 13 shall be ten per centum (10%). For taxes paid one hundred fifty
- 14 (150) days or more, but less than two hundred ten (210) days
- 15 after the due date, the interest rate shall be eleven per centum
- 16 (11%). For taxes paid two hundred ten (210) days or more, but
- 17 <u>less than two hundred seventy (270) days after the due date, the</u>
- 18 <u>interest rate shall be twelve per centum (12%). For taxes paid</u>
- 19 two hundred seventy (270) days or more, but less than three
- 20 <u>hundred thirty (330) days after the due date, the interest rate</u>
- 21 shall be thirteen per centum (13%). For taxes paid three hundred
- 22 thirty (330) days or more, but less than three hundred sixty-
- 23 five (365) days after the due date, the interest rate shall be
- 24 <u>fourteen per centum (14%). For taxes paid three hundred sixty-</u>
- 25 five (365) days or more after the due date interest shall be
- 26 <u>charged at the rate of fifteen per centum (15%) per annum.</u>
- 27 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.