THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT



(301) 952-3700 County Council

## **POSITION STATEMENT**

HB 57 Delegate Atterbeary Property Tax - Tax Sales - Requirement to Sell

## POSITION: SUPPORT

**HB 57** – Property Tax – Tax Sales – Requirement to Sell – For the purpose of repealing certain limitations on the authority of local governments to set the time by which a property with taxes in arrears must be sold by the tax collector. This bill would take effect July 1, 2023.

Current law requires tax collectors to sell property seized based on a delinquent property tax within two years after the property is in arrears. This bill would allow a property sale to be conducted "within the time required by local law," therefore, giving deference to local jurisdictions to ultimately decide how they want to conduct these types of sales.

Local governments should have authority over local tax issues. The Prince George's County Council supports HB 57 because it does just that. However, we hope that this change does not negatively impact residents in other counties should their local governments decide to speed up the tax payment process<del>. We</del> The Council strongly believes that proper time should be afforded to a property owner to pay back taxes, particularly given the current housing crisis.

For the foregoing reasons, the Prince George's County Council SUPPORTS House Bill 57 and respectfully requests the Committee's favorable consideration of its position.

Prepared by: Evans & Associates On behalf of Prince George's County Council