

**THE BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

203 South Fourth Street - Courthouse - Room 207 Oakland, Maryland 21550

www.garrettcountry.org countycommissioners@garrettcountry.org

301-334-8970

301-895-3188

FAX 301-334-5000

**Board of Commissioners**

Paul C. Edwards  
James C. Hinebaugh, Jr.  
S. Larry Tichnell

**County Administrator**

Kevin G. Null

**County Attorney**

Gorman E. Getty III

February 13, 2019

Delegate Anne R. Kaiser, Chair  
Ways & Means Committee  
Lowe House Office Building – Room 131  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: HOUSE BILL 787: GARRETT COUNTY – OVERDUE PROPERTY TAX – INTEREST RATE**

Dear Chairman Kaiser:

The Board of Garrett County Commissioners fully supports HB 787 Garrett County – Overdue Property Tax – Interest Rate. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 14-603 of the State Code, Garrett County may not charge an interest rate greater than one percent (1%).

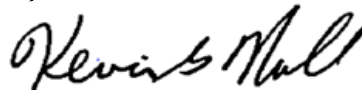
The Board is requesting enabling legislation to allow the Board of County Commissioners to increase the interest rate for unpaid property tax bills to 1.50%.

The Board of County Commissioners proposed the Bill in part to encourage prompt payment of tax bills. We estimate approximately 35% of property tax bills are paid late every year. The additional interest charge will generate \$250,000 in additional income.

The Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests that the committee approve HB 787.

Thank you.

By Direction of the Board,



Kevin G. Null  
County Administrator