



Odette Ramos

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Testimony
HB83 – Property Tax – Tax Sales - Redemption
March 29, 2023
FAVORABLE

Chair Guzzone and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

I am writing to urge your support for **HB83 – Property Tax – Tax Sales – Redemption**. Thanks to Chair Atterbeary for introducing this important legislation.

Any property owner whose lien was sold in tax sale is allowed to redeem the property, which is the amount of the lien plus the fees to the lien holder. However, often, the owner who is trying to redeem the property is unable to get a hold of the lien holder to find out what are the fees owed, and pay them for the satisfaction letter. The jurisdiction can then collect the lien from the owner. Because these fees accrue monthly, it is important for the lien holder to get back to the owner so that minimal fees accrue, but that is often not the case.

HB83 requires the collector to contact the lien holder on behalf of the owner. If the collector does not hear from the lien holder within 5 days, the collector shall redeem the property without the satisfaction letter. This is important to help the owners get their properties back, without waiting for the lien holder to get back to them, and owners can work to stay in their homes without additional fees.

I urge your favorable report for this legislation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. I can be reached on 410-396-4814 or via email at odette.ramos@baltimorecity.gov.

Respectfully Submitted:

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