

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lt. Governor



DANIEL K. PHILLIPS
Director

ROBERT YEAGER
Deputy Director

HEARING DATE: January 15, 2025

BILL: SB0204

TITLE: Property Tax - Deadline to Set County and Municipal Corporation Tax Rates - Alteration

SDAT POSITION: SUPPORT

The Department of Assessments and Taxation supports Senate Bill 204 - Property Tax - Deadline to Set County and Municipal Corporation Tax Rates - Alteration. This legislation would alter the deadline for local taxing authorities to set their property tax rates from July 1 to June 1.

The deadline for local governments to set and submit their property tax rates to the Department is currently July 1 of each year, the same date by which most counties are required to issue tax bills. The Department requires all local property tax rates to calculate, among other figures, the amount in Homeowner's tax credits an applicant should receive from the county. Year after year, these credits are calculated and issued late, usually in revised tax bills, because the Department has a short window of time in which to calculate and report credits to county finance offices. By altering the date to give the Department's Homeowner's tax credit division more time, this bill would cut significantly into the number of revised tax bills issued by local governments and the number of service calls fielded by SDAT and local offices for late or missing credits.

The Department is in ongoing conversations with a number of local jurisdictions and is open to amendments later in June to accommodate local budget deadlines.

Accordingly, the Department respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 204.

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