

**SB0204\_BT\_SUPP.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Daniel Phillips

Position: FAV

**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.

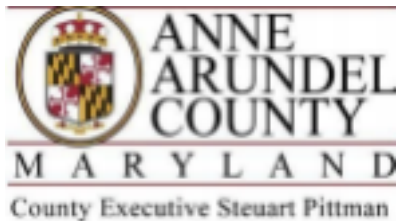
Accordingly, the Department respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 204.

Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation  
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1-888-246-5941 TTY: 1-800-735-2258

**Anne Arundel County \_FWA\_SB204.pdf**

Uploaded by: Hannah Dier

Position: FWA



January 15, 2025

**Senate Bill 204**

**County Income Tax - Rate and Income Brackets - Alterations  
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee**

**Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT**

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS WITH AMENDMENT** Senate Bill 204 – Property Tax – Deadline to Set County and Municipal Corporation Tax Rates – Alteration. SB 204 would accelerate the date by which counties and municipalities must set the property tax rate for the next taxable year, from July 1 to June 1.

As the single largest revenue source for funding the County budget, the property tax rate is a critical part of the budget formulation and deliberation process. Anne Arundel County’s charter requires our budget to be introduced to the County Council by May 1st and passed by June 15th of each year. The charter further mandates other milestones throughout the budget formulation process, including at least two public meetings (although my Administration’s practice has been to hold eight each year). Anne Arundel County has strategically constructed a budget formulation schedule that allows careful review and consideration at each stage while meeting these statutory deadlines.

Although it would not be feasible for us to accelerate our entire budget process by more than two weeks in order to meet a June 1 property tax rate deadline, we appreciate that the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) is looking for improvements to their tax credit processing workflow. Anne Arundel County can commit to notifying SDAT of our annual property tax rate by **June 20th** of each year.

Anne Arundel County urges a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT** report on SB 204, with an amendment modifying the date to align with Anne Arundel County’s existing budget processing schedule.

# **MML- SWA-SB 204 - Tax Rate Deadline.pdf**

Uploaded by: Justin Fiore

Position: FWA



Maryland Municipal League  
*The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns*

# TESTIMONY

January 15, 2025

**Committee:** Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

**Bill:** SB 204 – Property Tax – Deadline to Set County and Municipal Corporation Tax Rates – Alteration

**Position:** Support with Amendments

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) supports Senate Bill 204 with one minor amendment. This legislation proposes to move the deadline by which counties and municipalities set their property rate from July 1 to June 1. MML understands the current situation that SDAT is seeking to remedy with SB 204, but our membership has expressed concerns about the practical ability to meet the proposed deadline.

While most budget adoptions processes should be concluded by June 1, that is not always the case. This is especially true for the 73 municipalities that have elections in May. It is common practice in these jurisdictions to allow the newly elected members to participate in the budget process, which can see deliberations bleed into June.

For these reasons, the League respectfully requests an amendment to make the deadline June 15 and for the committee to issue a favorable report.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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