



County Auditors' Association of Ohio

66 East Lynn Street • Columbus, Ohio 43215 • (614) 228-2226 • Fax: (614) 228-8901 • www.caaao.org

JON A. SLATER, JR.
Fairfield County
President

ALAN HAROLD
Stark County
Vice President

JULIE A. ADKINS
Seneca County
Second Vice President

ANDREA L. WEAVER
Union County
Third Vice President

WILLIAM D. McFARLAND
Washington County
Secretary/Treasurer

FRANCES S. LESSER, Esq.
Executive Director

BETTY S. DEVER
Assistant Director

THOMAS P. PAPPAS, Esq.
Legislative Counsel

Testimony of the County Auditors' Association of Ohio

HB 598

House State and Local Government Committee

June 19, 2018

Chairwoman Anielski, Vice Chairman Hambley, Ranking Member Holmes and Members of the State and Local Government Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to express the County Auditors' Association of Ohio's (CAAO) support for HB 598, to provide County Auditors with more discretion in how often, when and where tax-forfeited land shall be offered for sale. Piggybacking on Representative Green's sponsor testimony last week, by providing County Auditors with this discretion, the land can be sold strategically to maximize value, when the time is right. County land banks will also have a better opportunity to acquire property.

The CAAO supports the bill with the amendments being considered today that authorize the County Auditor to offer one or more lands on the "forfeited lands" list when the auditor determines that a sale is necessary and the most appropriate location in the county for conducting a sale. These additions provide maximum flexibility and ensure that the property is sold at the best possible time and under the best set of circumstances.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to offer support.