



**County Treasurers Association of Ohio**  
**Senate Local Government & Elections Committee**  
**Proponent Testimony – HB 504 Amendment**  
**December 13, 2022**

Chair Gavarone, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Maharath and members of the Senate Local Government & Elections Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit remarks regarding HB 405. Although the County Treasurers Association of Ohio (CTAO) does not have a position on the bill as a whole, we are writing in support of the recent amendment that would allow electronic transmission of real estate and manufactured home tax bills. This amendment permissively allows county treasurers to offer the option of paperless billing to taxpayers. Further, it protects the contact information of taxpayers who utilize this service. And finally, it provides explicit statutory clarity for county treasurers who choose to offer this service.

Electronic billing can improve accessibility and reduce administrative burdens for county taxpayers by empowering them to receive bills in the manner most convenient for them. It is especially useful for residents who prefer paying their bills online, as well as for taxpayers who travel frequently out of state or own property outside of their primary residence. It can also positively incentivize counties to upgrade and modernize their online tax payment systems. Importantly, paperless billing can save taxpayer dollars through reduced mailing of physical bills.

Every county is different, which is why the permissive nature of this amendment is so critical. For county treasurers who see paperless billing as a good fit for their constituents, the amendment provides them the opportunity to move one of their crucial responsibilities into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, putting treasurers in line with other modern day bill collection departments in the public and private sectors.

We appreciate Chair Gavarone's assistance in drafting this amendment and ask that the committee support this addition to HB 405.

Kevin Futryk, *Executive Director*

Julia Wynn, *State Lobbyist*

County Treasurers Association of Ohio