



To: Chairman Bill Roemer, Vice Chair Jack Daniels, Ranking Member Dan Troy & Members of the House Ways & Means Committee

From: Kevin L. Futryk, Executive Director, County Treasurers Association of Ohio

Re: Proponent Testimony re: SB 186

Date: December 10, 2024

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Chair Roemer, Vice Chair Daniels, Ranking Member Troy, and members of the House Ways & Means Committee, my name is Kevin Futryk, and I serve as the Executive Director of the County Treasurers Association of Ohio (CTAO). Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to express the CTAO's full support for SB 186.

As you know, county treasurers are responsible for collecting property taxes and their goal is always to collect all that is owed. Unfortunately, in many counties across the state, county treasurers are dealing with a problem of delinquent properties being purchased by entities that owe taxes on other properties they own, continuing the cycle of a property not being put back onto the active tax rolls for the benefit of the community. SB 186 deals with this problem in two ways:

1. Requires all delinquent and current property taxes on real property to be paid before the property is sold or subdivided.
2. Prohibits the transfer of property sold at a tax foreclosure sale unless the purchaser supplies an affidavit stating that the purchaser or certain related parties do not own tax delinquent property in the state or that such delinquency is justified or erroneous.

These two provisions will hopefully curb the cycle of delinquent properties remaining delinquent, causing further problems of blight and depressed property values in the neighborhoods where they are located. Following me will be testimony by several treasurers who will highlight this problem in their counties, and you should have received written testimony from several other treasurers as well.

Chairman Roemer, the CTAO greatly appreciates this committee's consideration of, as described by sponsor Senator Blessing, this very simple bill, which attempts to help break the cycle of delinquent properties in communities across the state.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify, and I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.