



# CITY OF BEDFORD OHIO

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February 25, 2022

Chairman Merrin  
and the members of the House Ways and Means Committee

Dear Chairman Merrin,

I am sending this letter expressing our tax concerns here at the City of Bedford regarding HB519 to yourself and the members of the House Ways and Means Committee.

The City of Bedford is in favor of not charging penalties for late tax return filings, provided that a taxpayer pays his/her estimated or final taxes by the appropriate April deadline. However, our City does have to communicate to the residents in a non-threatening manner, that we did not receive a tax return for the current year. Some taxpayers think their tax preparers file their returns for them electronically to our city. This is not the case, and they would be paying late filing penalties and taxes, if we do not communicate to them soon after the April deadlines.

Also, The City of Bedford, through an approved ordinance of council, does not charge any penalties for not paying estimated taxes. The City currently does this under the laws allowed by the state legislature already in place.

This current House Bill 519 would require the City to penalize those not paying quarterly estimated taxes on time. City council has voted not to enforce these penalties. Also, this HB 519 would make us bother our residents more often with more penalty letters and for penalties not currently enforced. Our City, believes by passage of the ordinance that our residents are knowledgeable enough to decide for themselves if they want to pay estimates or not. Most of our taxpayers with balances above \$200 annually, request our tax department to bill them quarterly to pay their estimates. Again, there are no penalties for not paying any estimates untimely.

Therefore, the actions of this House Bill 519 are too strict and hampers those communities like ours, to communicate to our residents, and not waive the estimated payment penalties to our taxpayers. Please take this information under consideration when you pass this House Bill 519.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank C Gambosi, CPA  
Finance Director  
CC: Ashley Ringle, OML