

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER



Jeffrey S. DeWitt
Chief Financial Officer

July 20, 2020

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

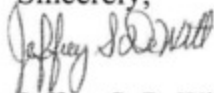
This letter transmits my request for the Council to approve, on an emergency basis, the "Real Property Tax Sale COVID-19 Equitable Emergency Amendment Act of 2020" (Tax Sale Bill) and the "Real Property Tax Sale COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2020".

For taxpayers, both individuals and businesses, that have been financially adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Tax Sale Bill will allow them until next year to become compliant, providing additional time to rebound from the current economic conditions. In addition, given the current restriction on large meetings, it is not feasible to hold a public tax sale during this fiscal year.

The Tax Sale Bill grants the Chief Financial Officer the authority to cancel the sale of delinquent tax year 2019 real property tax debt. I request that the Council consider this legislation at its Legislative Meeting scheduled for July 28, 2020.

If you have any questions, I am available at (202) 727-2476.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey S. DeWitt

Enclosures

cc: Nyasha Smith
Secretary to the Council of the District of Columbia


Chairman Mendelson at the request of the
Chief Financial Officer

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend, on an emergency basis, Section 47-1332 of the District of Columbia Official Code to cancel the tax sale in 2020 and to provide for a notice of cancellation to be mailed to affected property owners.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Real Property Tax Sale COVID-19 Equitable Emergency Amendment Act of 2020".

Sec. 2. Chapter 13A of the District of Columbia Official Code is amended as follows:

(a) § 47-1332 is amended as follows:

(1) In subsection (a) strike the phrase "(c) and (d)" and insert the phrase "(c), (d) and (d-1)" in its place.

(2) A new subsection (d-1) is added to read as follows:

"(d-1)(1) No tax sale shall be held during calendar year 2020.

"(2) The Chief Financial Officer shall mail a notice of cancellation to the person who was mailed a notice under § 47-1341(a) at the same address in such latter notice.

Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

36 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Chief Financial Officer as the fiscal
37 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
38 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

39 Sec. 4. Effective date.

40 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
41 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), and shall remain in effect for no longer than
42 90 days, as provided for emergency acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section
43 412(a) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 788;
44 D.C. Official Code § 1-204.12(a)).