

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-210

JOINT RESOLUTION BY THE FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OPPOSING SENATE BILL 117 AND ASSEMBLY BILL 129 AND ANY OTHER LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD ALLOW A GRACE PERIOD FOR PAYMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES

To the Honorable Members of the Racine County Board of Supervisors:

WHEREAS, over the years, the Wisconsin County Treasurers Association (WCTA) has strongly opposed various proposals which would allow a grace period for the payment of property taxes; and

WHEREAS, some State Legislators have proposed legislation and compromises which would create a grace period for the payment of property taxes; and

WHEREAS, there will be additional costs to counties related to changes to computer programming, additional staffing, and lost revenues if any of these proposals are implemented; and

WHEREAS, the majority of taxpayers pay their property taxes in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, there are no grace periods granted by the State of Wisconsin for any other tax payments; and

WHEREAS, if these proposals are enacted, there would be a loss of uniformity in tax collection; and

WHEREAS, if these proposals are enacted, there would be great difficulty in settling collections with all the taxing jurisdictions in a timely manner as set by State Statute; and

WHEREAS, the county treasurers make every effort to inform the taxpayers through various mediums of payment deadlines; and

WHEREAS, passage of any grace period legislation serves only a few and penalizes thousands; and

WHEREAS, after a lengthy discussion, the WCTA cast a majority vote to oppose all legislation allowing a grace period for late payments of property taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Racine County Board of Supervisors opposes Senate Bill 117 and Assembly Bill 129 and any legislation or compromise legislation which would allow a grace period for the payment of property taxes and strongly recommends the current law remain in effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Racine County Board of Supervisors that the County Clerk is directed to send copies of this resolution to members of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, members of the Senate Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and Government Reform Committee, Representatives Vos, Turner, Lehman, Gunderson and Kerkman and Senators Stepp, Wirch and Lazich and Governor James Doyle.

1 Resolution No. 2004-210
2 Page Two

3
4
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1st Reading _____

2nd Reading _____

BOARD ACTION

Adopted _____

For _____

Against _____

Absent _____

VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

Prepared by:
Corporation Counsel

Respectfully submitted,

**FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES
COMMITTEE**

Peter L. Hansen, Chairman

Van H. Wanggaard, Vice-Chairman

Pamela Zenner-Richards, Secretary

David J. Hazen

Thomas Pringle

Q. A. Shakoor, II

Kenneth Lumpkin

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
COMMITTEE**

Russell A. Clark, Chairman

Daniel F. Sharkozy, Vice-Chairman

Edward M. Dawson

Hubert H. Braun

Mark M. Gleason

1 Resolution No. 2004-210
2 Page Three

3
4
5
6
7
8
9
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11
12
13
14
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Robert N. Miller

Thomas Pringle

Van H. Wanggaard