

June 16, 2021

Hello Jeffco Taxpayers,

In 2020, HB20-1421 was passed, giving cities and counties the option to defer, suspend or reduce accrued interest on delinquent property tax payments for any period between June 15 and October 1, 2020. HB20-1421 benefited Jefferson County taxpayers and businesses who were struggling financially in the midst of the COVID-19 economic downturn to receive some options for payment and avoid a tax lien sale. It also benefited the counties who chose to adopt this policy by allowing them to increase their rate of collection and be better able to disburse funds to the districts (school, fire, cities, urban drainage, etc...) as budgeted.

Currently, as of June 10, 2021, Jefferson County is approx. 8% lower in property tax collections than in 2020. As you know, many counties, including Jefferson County, have just adopted the "All Clear" pandemic status on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Many taxpayers are still struggling to pay their property taxes. Several counties have received substantially less than the average year with many individuals and businesses still struggling to recover from the effects of COVID-19.

SB21-279 mirrors the intent of HB20-1421, with no substantive changes. The bill allows a county, through a conferral by the board of county commissioners and requiring consent of the county treasurer, to temporarily reduce, waive, or suspend delinquent interest payments for property tax payments for any period between June 16, 2021, and September 30, 2021.

In an effort to collect delinquent property taxes and to make special districts and the County whole with regards to collections and distributions, I will be waiving delinquent property tax interest from June 16 through September 15, 2021 to encourage property owners to pay their delinquent property taxes in 2021. There is still a declared emergency in Colorado and not everyone is recovering at the same speed from COVID-19. This one-year-only measure will help taxpayers get caught up in 2021 and avoid a tax lien sale.

Sincerely,



Jerry DiTullio  
Jefferson County Treasurer



# Fiscal Note

**Drafting Number:** LLS 21-1028 **Date:** May 21, 2021  
**Prime Sponsors:** Sen. Story; Simpson **Bill Status:** Senate Finance  
Rep. Roberts **Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram | 303-866-3561  
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**Bill Topic:** DELINQUENT INTEREST PAYMENTS PROPERTY TAX

- Summary of Fiscal Impact:**
- State Revenue
  - State Expenditure
  - State Transfer
  - TABOR Refund
  - Local Government
  - Statutory Public Entity

The bill allows a board of county commissioners or a city council to reduce or waive delinquent property tax interest payments for any period of time between June 16, 2021, and September 30, 2021. The bill may result in a reduction of local property tax revenue.

**Appropriation Summary:** No appropriation is required.

**Fiscal Note** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

**Status:**

### Summary of Legislation

The bill allows a board of county commissioners or a city council to reduce or waive delinquent property tax interest payments for any period of time between June 16, 2021, and September 30, 2021. A board or city council must notify a local taxing jurisdiction of the intent to reduce, waive, or suspend payments. If a local taxing jurisdiction would be unable to meet its bond payment obligations after the proposed reduction, waiver, or suspension, the local taxing jurisdiction must notify the board or city council.

A county treasurer may advance property tax amounts to enable a local taxing jurisdiction to help pay for bonded indebtedness if the jurisdiction has notified the board or council and has collected 90 percent of property tax revenue as of the time of the notification.

### Local Government

By allowing boards of county commissioners or city councils to reduce, waive or suspend the collection of delinquent property tax interest payments, this bill may result in less property tax revenue collected by a county, municipality, or other local taxing jurisdictions. The other provisions of the bill concerning the advancement of property tax to a local taxing jurisdiction may shift the timing of some revenue distributions, but will not affect the total amounts of local government revenue or expenditures.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

### State and Local Government Contacts

Counties  
Property Tax Division - Local Affairs

Municipalities  
Special Districts