

Senate Bill1347

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Donna Peterson and I represent the Idaho Association of Counties and the Idaho Association of County Treasurer's. Today before you is S1347 dealing with excess funds from the sale of tax deeded property.

Kelli has done an excellent job outlining the issues that both the county treasurer's and clerks face when dealing with excess proceeds as a result of a tax deed sale.

Earlier this summer we met with State Treasurer Crane and Cozette from the Unclaimed Property Division to discuss the idea of moving the excess proceeds to the Unclaimed Division. They were familiar with the issues we deal with in determining the rightful owner of those proceeds. They were enthusiastic about assisting the counties in taking over the process of determining who received the proceeds. They deal with this issue every day and have policies, procedures, and expertise in dispersing funds to the proper person.

With the emergence of this new industry that Kelli mentioned in her testimony it has placed additional time and effort to those counties who have excess proceeds in dealing with public records requests and what items are actually subject to public records. The title companies do not want us to share title reports. Again, this industry is encouraging taxpayers to contract with them then collecting 30-50% of whatever monies they "find". These contracts are not recorded so the treasurer or clerk has no way of knowing the delinquent taxpayers have signed them. The State Treasurer's Office has dealt with these companies and/or individuals and has specific procedures to deal with those situations.

We believe S1347 provides a cleaner process than the law we are currently operating under and would not affect any future levying capacity. At this time I would ask for your support and a DO PASS of S1347.

I would stand for questions. We also have Cozette from the Unclaimed Property Division here should you have any specific questions for her.

Submitted by:



Donna D Peterson, Payette County Treasurer, Chair IAC Legislative Committee

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