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Health and Government Operations  
Committee

*Chair*

Government Operations and  
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*House Chair*

Joint Committee on Administrative,  
Executive, and Legislative Review



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Testimony of Delegate Samuel I. Rosenberg  
Before the House Ways and Means Committee  
In Support Of  
**House Bill 1050**  
**Tax Sales – Notices**

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Life is a busy affair and things inevitably fall through the cracks. However, if we are prompted by a simple phone call, letter, or email to remind us, it can save a matter from escalating into something more difficult to handle as time passes.

Owning and maintaining a property requires certain obligations from the homeowner. The State also has certain responsibilities to homeowners as it seeks to collect property taxes from them.

When one of my constituents attempted to sell a house that he believed he owned through a life estate granted to him by his parents, he was dismayed to learn that he was no longer the owner. Instead, it had been sold at a tax sale, of which he was never notified.

House Bill 1050 would ensure that individuals are notified at the appropriate time. Any individual who holds a lien on a property, or a remainder interest in a life estate, must receive a copy of the notice from the tax collector.

This simple and common-sense reform would provide adequate notification to those who have an interest in the property.

I urge the Committee to act favorably on House Bill 1050.

February 23, 2021