

HOUSE No. 3854

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to extending the deadline for mailing quarterly tax bills.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to make, in part, to provide for an extension of the deadline to mail certain tax bills in cities and towns, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Notwithstanding section 57C of chapter 59 of the General Laws, for fiscal year 2012, an
2 actual tax bill issued upon the establishment of the tax rate for the fiscal year, after credit is given
3 for a preliminary tax payment previously made, shall be due and payable in 2 installments in the
4 case of cities and towns with quarterly payments and 1 installment in the case of cities and towns
5 with semi-annual payments. For cities and towns with quarterly payments, the first installment
6 shall be due and payable on February 1, 2012, or 30 days after the actual real estate tax bills are
7 mailed, whichever is later, and the second installment shall be due and payable on May 1, 2012,
8 after which dates, if unpaid, they shall become delinquent. For cities and towns with semi-annual
9 payments, the installment shall be due and payable on April 1, 2012, after which date, if unpaid,
10 it shall become delinquent.

11 If the actual tax bill issued in fiscal year 2012 is not mailed by January 30, 2012, then,
12 upon the establishment of the tax rate, there shall be a single actual tax bill due and payable on
13 May 1, 2012 or 30 days after the date of mailing, whichever is later. That tax bill shall represent
14 the full balance owed after credit is given for the preliminary tax payments previously made.

15 This act shall apply to a city or town that has been identified by the Federal Emergency
16 Management Agency for Emergency Declaration DR-4028 or DR-1994 and has accepted the act
17 by vote of its city or town council, subject to its municipal charter, or its board of selectmen.