

Last night, the General Assembly passed several tax reassessment-related bills.

What do they mean for the Delaware Taxpayer?<sup>1</sup>:

- **HB 240 - Refunds if You Overpaid**
  - Counties can now issue cash refunds if you overpaid \$50 or more in property taxes.
- **HB 241 - Flexible Payment Plans & Reduced Penalties**
  - If your tax bill increased by \$300 or more, you can request a payment plan. While on a plan, late fees are suspended, and New Castle County's penalty drops from 5% to 1%.
- **HB 242 - Fairer School Tax Rates**
  - New Castle County schools can now adjust how taxes are split between homeowners and businesses, **without raising total revenue**, helping protect residents from sharp increases.
- **SB 203 & SB 204 - Residential vs. Non-Residential Rates Allowed**
  - Both counties (SB 203) and municipalities (SB 204) now have the authority to set different tax rates for homes and businesses to promote fairness.
- **SCR 122 – Official Commitment to Reviewing the Assessment Process**
  - A full review of the property reassessment process has been ordered to make sure future assessments are more accurate and equitable.

Might be helpful to emphasize:

The special session was intended to address bills related to the **immediate** needs of Delawareans.

With the September 30<sup>th</sup> NCC tax deadline coming up, the state needed to act fast so that the county and schools have time to set up the systems stipulated in the bills and facilitate adjusted bills to taxpayers.

The GA goes back into session in January, and tax bills will undoubtedly be a major focus. In January, every bill will be able to go through the committee process with public comment and stakeholder engagement.

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<sup>1</sup> *Oversimplified summary of what the bills do, but I feel the constituents will be responsive to quick explanations.*