- <u>2</u> A TEAR-OUT *OR OTHER RESPONSE* FORM THAT CAN BE USED BY TAXPAYERS TO REQUEST THAT THEIR PROPERTY TAXES BE PAID ON A SEMIANNUAL BASIS TO MORTGAGE COMPANIES OR OTHER ESCROW ACCOUNT SERVICERS *OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS*.
- (III) WHEN PROVIDING NOTICE THROUGH A NEWSPAPER, THE NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT SHALL BE PUBLISHED AT LEAST TWO TIMES DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH OF EACH YEAR.
- (IV) THE NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT OR THE WRITTEN NOTIFICATION SHALL ALLOW OWNERS WHO PAY PROPERTY TAXES THROUGH AN ESCROW ACCOUNT SERVICER OR MORTGAGE COMPANY AT LEAST 60 DAYS TO ELECT A PAYMENT OPTION.
- [(d)] (F) A property owner electing to pay real property taxes under a semiannual payment schedule shall pay a service charge with the second installment.
  - [(e)] (G) The service charge:
    - (1) shall be:
- (i) adopted by the taxing authority THAT COLLECTS THE PROPERTY TAXES as part of adoption of the property tax rate under §§ 6-301 through 6-303 of this article;
- (II) APPLICABLE TO ALL PROPERTY TAX BEING COLLECTED BY THE TAXING AUTHORITY ON THE SEMIANNUAL PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR ITSELF AND FOR ANY OTHER TAXING AUTHORITY;
- [(ii)] (III) expressed as a percent of the amount of tax due at the second installment and shown on the tax bill as a percent and actual dollar amount charged; and

## [(iii)] (IV) calculated in an amount:

- 1. reasonably equivalent to the anticipated lost interest income associated with the delay in payment of the second installment; and
- 2. covering administrative expenses associated with the semiannual payment not exceeding 25% of the charge for lost interest; and
- (2) may not be considered to be a property tax for the purposes of any provision of a local law or charter that limits the property tax rate or property tax revenues.
- [(f)] (H) (1) The property tax bill under a semiannual payment PAYMENT schedule:

## (1)} (1) shall state:

 $\{(i)\}$  (1)  $\underline{I}$  the amount of the tax due if paid in full, including any applicable discounts for early payment;