

# News...



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**For Immediate Release**

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*State Representative Harry Benton (97<sup>th</sup>)*

## **Benton Introduces Bill to Help More Seniors with Their Property Taxes**

**PLAINFIELD, Ill.** – State Rep. Harry Benton, D-Plainfield, is working to help ease property taxes for older adults by introducing a bill to ensure they remain eligible for a key tax exemption amidst continued inflation.

“A person’s home is, perhaps, their most precious possession, and it is easy to understand why anyone, older adults especially, would wish to continue living in their home,” said Benton. “Unfortunately, many older adults in Illinois have been struggling with the demands of high property taxes and inflation. Increasing access to this program will help more of them remain in their homes with the dignity and security they deserve.”

Benton introduced House Bill 4202, which would raise the annual income threshold for the Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Deferral Program to keep up with rising inflation. Since 2018, the deferral has been available to senior taxpayers earning less than \$65,000 per household. Benton’s bill would increase eligibility to \$85,000, to ensure older homeowners do not lose access to this program because of inflation and cost of living adjustments.

“It is heartbreaking when anyone is forced into selling their home because of property taxes,” Benton said. “Anything we can do to help older adults to stay in the homes they’ve worked for their entire lives, I think we have a moral duty to look into doing that.”

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