



TAKE ACTION TODAY: Property Tax Relief for Low Income Seniors and SSDI Recipients

Please see message below from Maureen Maigret, Chair of Aging in Community Subcommittee of the LTCCC (Long-Term Care Coordinating Council). Maureen is a Board member and volunteer policy advisor to Senior Agenda Coalition of RI.

Dear Aging in Community Subcommittee Members and Interested Persons:

In my last LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ALERT, I alerted you to the Perry-Sullivan budget issue to help address the homecare workforce crisis. In today's ALERT, I share information about legislation that could put \$\$\$\$ in the pockets of older persons and those on Social Security who own or rent their homes. This legislation is:

H7127 sponsored by Representatives Ruggiero, Shallcross Smith, Carson, Hull, Handy, Fogarty, Vella-Wilkinson, Williams, Batista, and Caldwell, and

S2192 sponsored by Senators Coyne, DiPalma, Pearson, DiMario and Anderson.

RI's Property Tax Relief Law Urgently Needs Updating

Sometimes called the Circuit Breaker Law, the state Property Tax Relief law was enacted to help provide property tax relief for persons age 65 and over and those on Social Security Disability (SSDI). Currently, it is available to those with incomes up to \$30,000 -- **a level set in 1999** - and provides a credit or refund of up to \$415 against a person's state taxes. Both homeowners and renters are eligible to apply. RI property taxes are some of the highest in the nation. As housing costs rise and property taxes increase more older persons with limited and fixed incomes and those on SSDI are becoming housing-cost burdened.

What H7127 and S2192 Would Do

The bills would make many hundreds more persons eligible by increasing the income cap from \$30,000 to \$50,000. The bills also increase the credit up to \$850. This means a person with household income of \$35,000 who is not eligible now could get a refund of up to \$850 next year if this passes. These changes would provide direct relief against high property taxes and make RI more in-line with our neighboring states of Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Make your voice heard!

Please help get this bill across the finish line and onto the Governor's desk by making your voice heard in support. Call on Speaker of the House Shekarchi (**222-2466**) and Senate President Ruggiero (**222-6655**) and your members of the RI House of Representatives and Senate with the message below. If a staff person answers, please ask them to relay this message:

I am calling to ask you to support H7127 (for House members) S2192 (for Senate members) to update the state Property Tax Relief Law so more low-income seniors and persons on Disability can get relief from high housing costs. Thank you.

To find your legislators, [use this link](#)

Links for contact information are here:

[RI House of Representatives](#)

[RI Senate](#)

Thank you,
Maureen Maignet, Chair
Aging in Community Subcommittee, LTCCC