

MISSOURI SENATE JEFFERSON CITY

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Sen. Jason Crowell Applauds Legislation to Protect Taxpayers from Rising Property Taxes

JEFFERSON CITY- Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today urged lawmakers to support legislation working to keep Missourians from being taxed out of their homes. Senate Bill 711 would close tax increase loopholes, sets out to require earlier notice and more information for taxpayers, and would expand tax relief for seniors and the disabled. The bill was recently approved by the Senate and has moved on to the House for consideration.

"Taxpayers have been struggling for too long with large property tax increases due to reassessment," said Sen. Crowell. "This legislation will ensure fairness in the property tax system and make sure that citizens have easy access to important information about their taxes."

Senate Bill 711 would require all taxing jurisdictions, regardless of whether they are operating at or below their tax rate ceiling, to roll back their tax rate to counter reassessment increases. Currently, only taxing jurisdictions operating at their tax rate ceiling are required by Missouri's Constitution to roll back their tax levy. The legislation would keep taxing jurisdictions operating below their ceiling from being able to increase taxes when reassessments go up without voter approval.

The bill also includes a provision that would allow taxpayers to receive a notice of projected tax liability when they receive their reassessment notices. The measure would also increase the Senior Citizen Property Tax Credit (Circuit Breaker) from \$750 to \$1100, and expand eligibility for homeowners with an income of up to \$30,000 for singles and \$40,000 for married couples.

"Many senior citizens have lived in their homes for decades and are suddenly finding themselves unable to pay their taxes while living on a fixed income," said Sen. Crowell. "I urge my colleagues in the House to act on this legislation so that we can institute these protections for taxpayers quickly."

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