

Submitter: Patrick Mahoney  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR1

I support SJR 1 to enact a property tax relief program for owner-occupied primary residences.

We (my wife and I) are both disabled. I collect SSI, and at 70, I'm no longer able to maintain the house or yard without hired assistance. My wife is also disabled however she receives Social Security, and between the two of us, we have a poverty level total of well under 30,000 per year.

Every year, Social Security is decreased to go towards Medicare part B, and we pay almost 400 dollars in the premium just between the two of us monthly, not to mention copays, deductions as we see our providers. Our home insurance has jumped while our coverage has decreased. We are in an economic downturn with everything more expensive. Getting a new roof to comply with new laws requires another loan and that's not in the cards ie getting a loan to do this. Removing trees etc., etc., to harden defensible spaces equals - should we pay for medications? Doctor visits? Should we ever eat again?

Having paid into social security for years, and the increase in Medicare, decreased by Social Security with a 2.5% COLA increase, property taxes going up (without assessments!), it has to be time to do something for seniors. I believe erasing property taxes (actually all taxes) for those of us who put in years and years of work.

Please support this bill.