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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

December 14, 2020

To: All House Members  
From: Representative Dan Deasy  
Subject: Senior Citizen Property Tax Freeze Act (formerly HB1951)

Older Pennsylvanians who purchased a home many years ago and have paid real estate taxes on that property for, in many cases, decades, are struggling to make ends meet. The rising costs of supplemental health insurance as well as prescription drugs often forces thousands of seniors to make a choice between paying these taxes or getting their medications. This is just wrong. While there have been proposals for many years calling for the elimination of real estate taxes in general as well as proposals for the elimination of this tax for senior citizens, nothing has happened except increases of real estate taxes.

I am, therefore, introducing legislation that would exempt seniors from real estate tax increases. This act would prohibit political subdivisions from imposing an increase on real property tax on residential property or increase the tax rate on real property for anyone that is 65 years or older and is currently residing on the property for which the exemption is claimed and has resided on that property for at least five consecutive years immediately prior to claiming the exemption.

This legislation would be the first step in providing much-needed relief. It is my hope that this legislation will be the beginning toward the elimination of property taxes for seniors.

I hope that you will join me in co-sponsoring this important piece of legislation. Thank you.

**Those that co-sponsored this bill during the 2019-2020 legislative session: DEASY, BARRAR, KINSEY, KULIK, McNEILL, MULLERY, NEILSON, O'NEAL, PASHINSKI, PETRARCA, READSHAW, STAATS, STEPHENS, YOUNGBLOOD, WARREN, MADDEN, RIGBY, O'MARA and MALAGARI**