



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1670</b>		DATE: <b>2/7/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>arniedienoff@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/7/2024 11:15 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**  
I am in Support of this Bill and raising the Relief for Real Estate and Rental for Senior Citizens.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>BRIAN COLBY</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>206-769-3497</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI BUDGET PROJECT</b>		TITLE: <b>VP PUBLIC POLICY</b>
ADDRESS: <b>6441 VALLEY ROAD</b>		
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>64113</b>
EMAIL: <b>bcolby@mobudget.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/7/2024 10:22 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		
<b>This is a great bill that will provide meaningful tax relief for those on fixed incomes.</b>		



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CARROLL RODRIGUEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-910-9156</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>ST. LOUIS COUNTY OLDER ADULT COMMISSION</b>		TITLE: <b>RETIRED; ST. LOUIS COUNTY OLDER ADULT COMMISSION,</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>1921 GRAYSON RIDGE COURT</b>			
CITY: <b>CHESTERFIELD</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63017</b>
EMAIL: <b>carrollrodriguez@charter.net</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2024 9:34 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

The St. Louis County Older Adult Commission (STLC OAC) is submitting written testimony in support of HB1670 (Matthieson). The Commission was established as part of the county's Age Friendly Plan and continues to work to advance the plan's 4 goals – one of which is housing. According to the St. Louis County Age Friendly Action Plan, home ownership by older adults in the county is approximately 80%. The report also reveals that one-third of the senior households live below the elder index that measures the income older adults 65+ need to meet their basic needs. The STLC OAC recognizes the impact that escalating assessments and property tax increases can have on older adults living on a fixed income. MO Circuit Breaker program, established in 1973, was designed to provide property tax relief to elderly individuals and persons with disabilities with limited resources. The problem with this program is that the guidelines have not been updated since 2008. Representative Matthieson's bill addresses these limitations. The STLC OAC urges your support for the guideline changes called for in HB1670 that would increase income eligibility limits and benefits for both homeowners and renters. In addition, this bill would adjust income eligibility limits annually. Carroll Rodriguez, Chair, St. Louis County Older Adult Commission



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAVE BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-382-0829</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>CATHOLIC CHARITIES ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>4445 LINDELL BLVD</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63108</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/7/2024 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAVID NUFFA</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>dbuffa82@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2024 6:58 AM</b>

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**This was made available to me last year it was a great benefit as I make only under a thousand a month and am disabled thank you so much**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DENNIS GANAHL, PHD</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>636-357-8071</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MO TAX RELIEF NOW</b>		TITLE: <b>FOUNDER &amp; MANAGING DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>15979 WOODLET WAY CT.</b>			
CITY: <b>CHESTERFIELD</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63017</b>
EMAIL: <b>dennis.ganahl@me.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2024 1:37 PM</b>	

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The last time the benefit amount and eligibility limits were increased was in 2008, 16 years ago, when our organization, MO Tax Relief Now, pushed for the increases. Costs of living have skyrocketed since that time. MO Tax Relief Now is joining the Silver Hair Legislature, Missouri Budget Project and the Missouri Council on Aging to support HB 1670. The Circuit Breaker tax credit was created 51 years ago to provide relief to both senior citizens and persons who are 100% disabled who fall into the lowest levels of income. The goal of this bill is to ensure that those who benefit from this program remain eligible while increasing the benefit to adjust for inflation since the last increase. MO Tax Relief Now is a state-wide organization of over 5,000 members who are fighting for tax relief for Missourians.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JAY HARDENBROOK</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-810-2066</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>AARP</b>		TITLE: <b>ADVOCACY DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>4031 PARKER AVE</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63116</b>
EMAIL: <b>jhardenbrook@aarp.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/7/2024 11:11 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JEANETTE MOTT OXFORD</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-289-4303</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>PARAQUAD</b>		TITLE: <b>PUBLIC POLICY &amp; ADVOCACY MANAGER</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>5240 OAKLAND AVENUE</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63110</b>
EMAIL: <b>joxford@paraquad.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/7/2024 1:28 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Paraquad thanks Rep. Matthiesen for sponsoring HB 1670. This is a much needed updating of Missouri’s Circuit Breaker policy. Unfortunately, people living with disabilities have a poverty rate that is more than twice as high as people without disabilities. The household budget of many Missourians with disabilities is helped by the Circuit Breaker. The amount of help that people receive has eroded though because the Circuit Breaker income guidelines and credit have not been adjusted since 2008 – more than 15 years ago. Rep. Matthiesen’s bill would increase the income limit in recognition of the real cost of living and would also increase the credit. It would index the program to inflation so that its benefit does not erode going forward. Making this change helps elders and people with disabilities stay in their homes and afford basic human needs. We ask that you vote Do Pass on HB 1670, and we welcome your questions about households that are helped by this credit - many of whom receive services at our independent living center. About Paraquad: We are one of the oldest and largest independent living centers in the country. Centers for Independent Living are unique because more than 50% of our board and staff are people with disabilities. Paraquad’s mission is to increase equity and independence for people with disabilities through services, partnerships, education, and advocacy.





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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JILL MARSHALL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>jillmarshall999@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/7/2024 3:27 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

HI THIS IS JILL MARSHALL. I HAVE SUPPORTED THIS BILL THAT USED TO BE 1134. MY MOTHER, MS. EMMA MARSHALL HAS BEEN IN HER HOME FOR 37 YEARS THIS YEAR. SHE IS A FIXED INCOME AND WILL BE 84 YEARS OLD THIS JUNE. THE BILL SHOULD HAVE PASSED, A YEAR AGO. THERE ARE A LOT OF SENIOR CITIZENS WHO NEEDS THIS MONEY THAT THEY HAVE PAID, BY LIVING IN THERE HOMES ALL THESE YEARS. I PRAYING THAT THIS BILL PASSED. PLEASE, PLEASE PASS THIS BILL, AND THANK YOU HOUSE REP MARK MATTHEISON FOR INTRODUCING THIS FANTASTIC BILL. I'M KEEPING MY FINGERS CROSS, GOOD LUCK JILL MARSHALL.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KAREN MORGAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>ksmorgan2@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2024 7:34 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KAYCEE NAIL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: <b>MA4</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 684</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/7/2024 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KIM RUSCHE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>kyrusche@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2024 10:09 AM</b>

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I missed the ptc this year because my adjusted gross was \$12 too much. Missed \$1100 credit because of \$12.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LAURA LOYACONO</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-665-3823</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>KANSAS CITY SHEPHERD'S CENTER</b>		TITLE: <b>POLICY DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>11723 JEFFERSON STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64114</b>
EMAIL: <b>laura@kcshepherdscenter.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2024 9:52 PM</b>	

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Honorable Committee Members, I am here today to advocate for the passage of House Bill 1670, which aims to update the Circuit Breaker Tax Credit. As the Policy Director of Kansas City Shepherd's Center, an organization dedicated to supporting older adults in our community, I urge this committee to recognize the necessity of adjusting the eligibility threshold and increasing the tax credit amount offered under the Circuit Breaker Tax Credit to reflect the current economic conditions facing older Missourians. At Kansas City Shepherd's Center, our mission is to honor our elders by celebrating, empowering, and serving older adults, helping them remain safe, healthy and independent in the place they call home. fostering independence and connection. For over 50 years, we have been providing vital services such as Meals on Wheels to address the needs of vulnerable individuals in our community. The majority of our clients are low-income, living alone, and without the support of a caregiver. Many of them face significant challenges, including the fear of losing their housing. Our clients come from diverse backgrounds, but they share common struggles. They are the retired teachers who dedicated their lives to educating future generations, now facing financial hardships in their golden years. They are the disabled veteran who bravely served their country but now finds it difficult to make ends meet. They are the widows who lost their spouses and are navigating life's challenges alone. They are individuals with disabilities who dream of independence but require additional support to thrive. A substantial portion of our clients are renters, with a staggering 77% expressing worry about housing instability in the near future. For these individuals, the Circuit Breaker Tax Credit is not just a financial relief but a lifeline that helps enables them to maintain their independence and dignity. Updating the MO Property Tax Credit, as proposed in HB 1670, is a crucial step in providing meaningful property tax relief to older Missourians and individuals with disabilities. By doing so, Missouri lawmakers can make a profound difference in the lives of those who are most vulnerable in our society, ensuring they can continue living independently in their own homes. I urge this committee to consider the pressing needs of our low-income clients and support the passage of House Bill 1670. Together, we can ensure that every older adult is seen, heard, and respected, living engaged and purposeful lives in our community. Thank you for your attention and consideration.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LINDA SWADLEY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>lswadley@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2024 10:40 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Senior citizens like my husband and myself are struggling to hang onto a home that's comfortable clean and we have a low house payment, but taxes, insurance and utilities, food is eating up any income we have left, if we have to leave this house and go to nursing home, we will be a bigger burden to taxpayers, because we will have to be on medicade to oay for nursing home



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARGARET TURNER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>margturn7@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/7/2024 10:40 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am 75 years old and have always rented (apartment). Last year, my rent increased \$75 per month! I expect this year that it will be at least the same. I have never been able to qualify for the Circuit Breaker tax. I would like the increased amounts to be even more due to the increased we have gotten in Social Security in the past two years. Circuit Breaker is based on our total Social Security, which includes the amount taken out each month for Medicare, not the amount that is deposited into our checking accounts.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>NICOLE LYNCH</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>636-699-2814</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>VOYCE</b>		TITLE: <b>DIRECTOR OF POLICY</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>8050 WATSON RD., SUITE 155</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63119</b>
EMAIL: <b>nlynch@voycestl.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/7/2024 10:49 AM</b>	

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**HB 1670 is meaningful property tax relief for older adults and people with disabilities that won't hurt local services that rely on property taxes for funding. Property tax relief for older adults on fixed incomes can help people stay in their homes and in their communities rather than in long-term care facilities.**





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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>RACHEL OHLHAUSEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>rohlhausen@jfskc.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2024 5:10 PM</b>

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As a social worker and director of operations for a program that serves older adults through home maintenance, I know that aging in place is a top priority for individuals. It provides freedom, peace of mind, and supports positive mental health outcomes. For older adults at or below the poverty level with a fixed income, it is hard to maintain a home when property taxes raise every few years. The Property Tax Credit being updated to reflect more current costs updating the threshold will make meaningful change to provide relief for older Missourians.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>THOMAS H EYSELL</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>636-346-9442</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>SILVER HAIRD LEGISLATURE</b>		TITLE: <b>PROFESSOR EMERITUS, FINANCE AND LEGAL STUDIES</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>1935 FARM VALLEY DRIVE</b>			
CITY: <b>CHESTERFIELD</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63017</b>
EMAIL: <b>eyssellt@msx.umsi.edu</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2024 3:10 PM</b>	

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I am a member of the Silver-Haired Legislature, a volunteer senior advocacy group created by the Older Americans Act of 1973. The SHL has supported Circuit Breaker update efforts for several years. The Circuit Breaker provides desperately needed financial assistance to tens of thousands of low-income seniors. Unfortunately, the income limits have not been updated since 2008, which means that many otherwise-deserving Missourians are ineligible. Data from the US Bureau of Labor show that consumer prices have risen over 40 percent over that period, while the Circuit Breaker limits have remained unchanged. This bill provides for indexing, which will address a bit part of the problem, and help more seniors stay in their homes.