

STATE OF KANSAS



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MEMBER: ETHICS AND ELECTIONS

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March 6, 2012

Testimony in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 1612

Chairman Donovan and Members of the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 1612.

SCR 1612 simply states – “The legislature may provide by law to limit valuation increases on single-family residential real property which is owned by and the principal place of residence of a Kansas resident who is 65 years of age or older as of January 1 of the tax year, and the legislature may enact legislation to limit application of this provision and enact such other legislation as is necessary to administer this provision.”

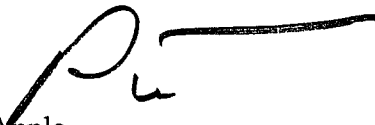
SCR 1612 must be approved by the citizens of Kansas to become part of the Kansas Constitution.

Many seniors wish to remain in their homes for as long as possible. But this valuable segment of our society is typically on an income that does not increase or at least does not increase at the rate of inflation. The pressures of increasing energy costs, food costs and other costs that cannot be avoided, place our retirees in a position of less and less disposable income.

While local units of government may see a slight reduction in assessed valuation, this decrease will only be temporary as these properties come back on the tax rolls at current values. In my opinion this will help keep our current retirees in Kansas and will be seen as an incentive for those looking for a state that treats its retirees well.

Thank you for your consideration of SCR 1612.

Very truly yours,


Pat Apple
Kansas Senate

Sn. Assmnt & Tax
3-6-12

Attachment # 1