

Representative Thomas Hall
46th House District
House Bill 263 Sponsor Testimony

Chairman Roemer, Vice-Chair Lorenz, Ranking Member Troy, and members of the House Ways and Means Committee. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 263, which seeks to implement a property tax freeze for individuals if they are seventy years of age or older, their income does not exceed seventy thousand dollars, and they have owned their home for at least ten years.

As many in this committee know, property tax reform has been at the forefront of many of my legislative undertakings this General Assembly. This is yet another opportunity to continue supporting those who are most vulnerable to these increasing costs. Our seniors in Ohio often are living on fixed incomes, whether that is through their retirement savings or Social Security benefits. As property values rise over time, the increase in taxes can cause undue financial strain on older individuals who may already be dealing with rising healthcare costs and other essential expenses. By freezing property taxes, seniors are shielded from sudden and potentially unmanageable financial burdens, allowing them to allocate resources to other critical needs.

The bottom line is that this legislation is about keeping our seniors in their homes and preventing them from being priced out of paradise by no fault of their own. Since the initial announcement of this legislation, many seniors across Ohio have reached out to our office to share the ways this bill will positively impact them. In the coming weeks I am certain that many of these same people will come in front of the committee to make their voice heard and I look forward to sitting amongst you all to listen.

Chairman Roemer and members of the committee, thank you again for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 263 and I would be happy to allow my joint sponsor Representative Isaacsohn the opportunity to speak to the bill.