

Submitter: Nancy Patton
On Behalf Of: Grandparents who raise grandkids
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR1

To the committee,

We Support SRJ1, the senior property tax freeze, and ask for you to refer it to the voters.

Next week my husband and I celebrate 52 years of marriage. We met in 1972 after he came home from Viet Nam. We married the next year April 1973. I am 72 years old, and my husband is 74 years old. We have two grown sons, 6 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. We have been raising our oldest great grandson since he was 1 month old. His mother was date raped, and she became pregnant. When her son was 1 month old, she asked if she could move in with us. She was also still in high school. We of course said yes. We got her through high school and some college. Her son/our oldest great grandson will be 13 years old on our 52nd wedding anniversary, April 7, 2025. He is a GOD send to us. He calls my husband DAD because he has no dad. His mother just got her caregiver certificate so at 31 years old she will finally get a job. Up until now we have paid for EVERYTHING for both of them. Food, clothing, transportation, education, etc.

I say all this because our home, that we live in Sweet Home, is our 4th home we have owned. When my husband retired almost 4 years ago, we paid a huge chunk, with his retirement, on the house. Because we are supporting 4 people on our fixed income, social security, for both my husband and I, it has been a tough. We do the best we can to provide a normal childhood for our great grandson, since there is no father. Everything else comes out of our pocket, besides medical. When it comes time to pay our property tax, it is very rough. We pay it but would do so much better if we had that \$4000 we have to pay out for property taxes, for living and helping raise this awesome boy.

I encourage you to please consider freezing property taxes for 65 and older. In this state there are many in our generation raising grandkids and great grandkids. We all could use the extra help to make their lives and ours better.

Thank you for serving in the GREAT State of Oregon.

Nancy Patton
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