

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
300 S.W. TENTH AVENUE
TOPEKA, KS 66612
(785) 296-7640
les.mason@house.ks.gov



DISTRICT OFFICE
108 ARCADIAN CT
MCPHERSON, KS 67460
les.jogo@gmail.com

LES MASON
73RD DISTRICT

March 15, 2022

House Committee on Taxation

It's my honor to provide testimony in support of HB 2729. There are existing "circuit breakers" for senior property owners in our statutes, and the legislature has looked at other possible alternatives. HB 2729, I think, provides a fresh look at the subject. It is modeled after Colorado's program for property tax relief for seniors, and I became aware of it, and intrigued by it, about a year ago.

In essence, the exemption would provide a 50% reduction to the first \$200,000.00 of appraised value of a senior's home. To qualify for the property tax reduction, a homeowner must be at least 65 years of age for the full year prior to application. Additionally, the applicant must have owned and occupied their current residence for at least 10 consecutive years.

This approach would provide incentive for seniors to stay in Kansas for their retirement years, and provide a much more equitable relief than existing statutes or those alternatives that have been explored.

The application process and administration of the program would occur at the county level. Counties would be reimbursed from the State General Fund.

I appreciate the committee's careful consideration of HB 2729, and would urge your support to recommend it favorably for passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Les Mason".

Les Mason
Kansas House District 73