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**FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE MELISSA CONYEARS-
ERVIN**

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Conyears-Ervin Passes Legislation to Reduce Property Taxes for Families, Seniors and Veterans

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – Every homeowner in the state would receive a break from high property taxes under a comprehensive tax relief package passed by state Rep. Melissa Conyears-Ervin, D-Chicago, increasing the value of key property tax credits for families, seniors and veterans. While Gov. Bruce Rauner has discussed freezing property taxes, Conyears-Ervin’s action goes further to actually cut property taxes and reduce the burden on local homeowners.

“Our hard working families deserve relief from excessive property taxes that often force families to move out of Illinois,” Conyears-Ervin said. “This measure brings needed relief to homeowners and helps our seniors and veterans stay in their homes.”

Conyears-Ervin voted to pass the comprehensive package of property tax relief measures on Thursday. Conyears-Ervin’s bill provides homeowners with relief above and beyond the freeze discussed by the governor, by increasing the value of key property tax exemptions that help homeowners reduce the taxable value of their homes and cut their taxes. Beginning in 2018:

- All homeowners would be eligible for an annual \$8,000 exemption on their primary residence;
- Seniors on fixed incomes would see lower property tax bills, as an exemption for homeowners over the age of 65 would increase from \$5,000 to \$6,000 annually;
- More veterans would be able to receive property tax relief, as returning service members certified 20-30 percent disabled who are currently ineligible for property tax relief would be provided a \$2,500 annual exemption. All veterans over the age of 75 would be able to receive a \$2,500 exemption as well.

Conyears-Ervin’s bill also creates a new property tax freeze for disabled homeowners receiving Supplemental Security Income from the federal government, and expands tax credits provided to long-term homeowners.

“Property taxes have crept up for far too long, so I am proud that we were able to take action to relieve some of this burden.” Conyears-Ervin said. “I will continue working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to pass this landmark reform package and ensure our community remains affordable for the working families who live here.”

Conyears-Ervin’s bill received bipartisan support in the House, and now awaits consideration in the Senate.

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