

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE

**COUNTY BOARD EXTENDS FILING DATE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS ASSESSMENT FREEZE
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FOR 2006**

The Kane County Board took action today to give senior citizens an additional five months to file an application with the Kane County Supervisor of Assessments for the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption for the taxable year 2006. The County Board voted to extend the filing period from July 1 to **December 1, 2006** in an effort to enable as many senior citizens as possible to take advantage of this exemption.

Kane County taxpayers who are 65 and older and owned and occupied their residence as their primary residence January 1 of the prior assessment year may be eligible for the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead exemption on their principal residence. The full exemption is available for those persons with an annual household income of \$45,000 or less; a partial exemption is available for those persons with an annual household income between \$45,001 and \$50,000.

The Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead exemption freezes the homeowner's assessed valuation at a base year. **This does not freeze taxes; only the assessment valuation.** However, since the assessed valuation is used to calculate taxes, the exemption is economically beneficial for the senior citizens that meet the qualifications. Furthermore, the exemption does not prevent the assessed valuation from increasing because of such things as room additions and other major changes to the property.

The Supervisor of Assessments office will be notifying in writing senior citizen taxpayers who are NOT currently receiving the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze to see if they are now eligible for this exemption.

County Board Chairman McConnaughay commented, "It is extremely important that our seniors are aware that the filing deadline and qualifications for the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption have changed. Our senior citizens are a valuable and growing segment of our population. By extending the filing period an additional five months we hope to give anyone who is eligible a little more time to apply for this exemption. The savings can be a real financial help to our seniors."

If anyone wants more information or has any questions, they should contact the Kane County Supervisor of Assessments office at 630-208-3818.

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