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Homestead Exemption Bill for Seniors 65 and Older by State Representative Marie Woodson Passes the House Floor Unanimously

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Representative Marie Woodson (D-Hollywood)’s bill, [HB 597](#), known as Homestead Exemption for Seniors 65 and Older, passed the House Floor with unanimous support.

The bill seeks to reduce the paperwork burden that low-income seniors 65 years and older face when renewing their qualified homestead exemption due to their income. Currently, low-income seniors must submit an affidavit and financial records stating their income on a yearly basis. [HB 597](#) changes that to an initial one-time filing and places a requirement that the beneficiary inform the property appraiser if their income status changes.

“I’m grateful to **Speaker Sprowls (R-Palm Harbor)** for his leadership, **Chair Renner (R-Palm Coast)** as well as the members of the House Rules Committee for placing [HB 597](#) on the agenda, and to my colleagues for voting in favor of this important bill. I would also like to give a sincere thank you to **Marty Kiar, Broward County Property Appraiser**, for his contribution and guidance in moving this bill through the process. This bill will provide much needed relief to our low-income seniors by simplifying the renewal process to the additional homestead exemption for which they qualify.”

“Thank you to **Representative Woodson** for her hard work making a difference for thousands of Florida seniors as [HB 597](#) will simplify and streamline the process for Florida’s seniors to renew their Senior Exemption each year,” said **Marty Kiar, Broward County Property Appraiser**.

Sophie Bock, a constituent from Pembroke Pines, FL considers [HB 597](#) “a very important legislation, as many seniors tend to forget to send the necessary paperwork. This exemption is needed for seniors who are trying to make ends meet. [HB 597 will be of great help to our seniors and we thank Representative Woodson on this stellar piece of legislation. During this pandemic, a lot of seniors are on fixed income and this legislation will greatly help.](#)”

“I have refused the exemption for years because of the paperwork but thanks to this legislation, I will now be able to take advantage of the exemption,” stated **Lillian**

Williams, a 97-year-old from Gainesville, FL.

State **Senator Tina Polsky (D-Boca Raton)** sponsors [SB 1256](#), which is the Senate companion bill to [HB 597](#). This version has passed all three of its Senate Committee references with unanimous support and now heads to the Senate floor for a vote.

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