

City of Taunton
Office of the Mayor



For Immediate Press Release: 06/30/2021

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MAYOR O'CONNELL DOUBLES SENIOR PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

Taunton, MA...Today Mayor Shaunna O'Connell announced she is doubling the senior citizen real estate tax exemption from \$500 to \$1000, which is the maximum amount allowed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

“Our seniors are our parents and grandparents. They have dedicated their lives to our community and our families in so many ways. Now it is our turn to show our dedication to them. Many seniors live on a fixed income, and by providing this benefit to qualifying seniors, we will make it more affordable for them to stay in their homes,” said O'Connell.

According to state law, qualifying seniors must be 70 years of age on or before July 1st and **must** meet certain income and asset requirements. Seniors apply annually for this tax credit by filling out a state application form and providing the local Assessor's Office with the required paperwork. Requirements include being an owner of the property in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for at least 5 years and having had a Massachusetts domicile for at least 10 years.

“I would like to thank the City Councilors for supporting my initiative to help our seniors,” O'Connell said. The proposed increase in the senior tax exemption will take effect starting July 1, 2021 (FY 2022) and the tax credit will apply to residents' third and fourth quarter real estate tax bills. Qualifying seniors will receive \$500 off their 3rd quarter bill (February) and \$500 off their 4th quarter bill (May).

A copy of the application can be found on the City of Taunton website under Applications & Forms on the Assessor's page: <https://www.taunton-ma.gov/assessors/pages/applications-forms>. Seniors needing assistance in filling out the required paperwork are encouraged to call the Taunton Council on Aging at [508-821-1425](tel:508-821-1425).

For more information regarding the qualification requirements and application process, please call the City of Taunton Assessor's Office at 508-821-1011 or visit the City of Taunton's website at taunton-ma.gov.

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