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Representative Smola Announces Circuit Breaker Tax Credit for Seniors

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) today announced the arrival of the Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit Information Guide which may prove helpful to seniors who qualify for the exemption.

The Circuit Breaker Tax Credit, which is named as such because it is “triggered” like an electrical circuit breaker when property payments exceed 10% of a senior citizen’s annual income, is a property tax credit that was designed with the hope of alleviating some of the burdens that property tax can create. Massachusetts residents who were aged 65 or older before January 1, 2016, own or rent residential property in Massachusetts and occupy the property as primary residence, have an annual income of \$57,000 or less for a single filer, \$71,000 or less for a head of household, or \$85,000 or less for joint filers, and who have property assessed at no more than \$693,000 may be eligible for this tax credit.

“This tax credit was designed by the legislature to assist senior citizens with their property taxes,” said Representative Smola. “I urge seniors to check to see if they are eligible for the Circuit Breaker Tax Credit so they can take full advantage when they are filing their taxes this spring.”

If you would like a copy of the Circuit Breaker Tax Credit Information Guide, which provides general information about the program in regards to eligibility requirements, income and asset limits, and how a person may claim the tax credit when filing their 2015 state income taxes, please contact Representative Smola’s office at 617-722-2100.

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