



KARL VAN ROY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

For Immediate Release
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Van Roy Eliminates Pension Tax

MADISON – According to Rep. Karl Van Roy (R-Howard), seniors will be able to keep more money in their bank accounts thanks to a bill that passed the state Assembly on Tuesday. Assembly Bill 1159 exempts pension income from the state income tax.

“Seniors shouldn’t be forced out of Wisconsin because of high taxes, but that is exactly what’s happening,” said Van Roy. “By removing income taxes on pensions, we are one step closer to making Wisconsin a more affordable place for seniors to live.”

AB 1159 passed on a strong bipartisan vote of 79-17. When fully implemented, the bill will allow Wisconsin retirees to keep \$267 million in their own budgets.

“We might not have balmy weather 365 days a year, but we’re not so cold here in Wisconsin that we think seniors should be taxed out of their homes,” said Van Roy. “People who lived here their whole lives should be able to retire here, where their kids and grandkids and friends are.”

Van Roy added that AB 1159 is not the only measure he supports to ease the costs of retiring in Wisconsin. He cited other proposals to help seniors retire in the state:

- **Eliminating Taxes on Social Security Benefits** – Van Roy supported eliminating the tax on Social Security benefits. The proposal, which was included in the state’s budget, saved seniors \$99.7 million.
- **Fully Funding SeniorCare** – Van Roy also voted to fully fund SeniorCare, Wisconsin’s prescription drug program that helps more than 90,000 seniors obtain their medications.
- **Property Tax Freeze** – Many seniors are taxed out of their homes through the property freeze, Van Roy noted, so it is important to address high property taxes that threaten seniors’ ability to stay in their homes. Van Roy said he supports AB 100 which freezes property taxes.

“No one should have to say, ‘I want to retire in Wisconsin, but I can’t afford it,’” said Van Roy. “People of all ages should be able to enjoy our beautiful state without having to worry if the high taxes will send them into retirement poverty.”

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