

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**CALL FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BLOUNT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO BE HELD AT THE BLOUNT COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 430, IN MARYVILLE, TENNESSEE, ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2007, AT 7:00 P.M.**

Pursuant to and in accordance with the authority vested in me by Tennessee Code Annotated § 5-5-105, I hereby call the Board of County Commissioners of Blount County, Tennessee, to meet in a special session meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the Blount County Courthouse, Room 430, in Maryville, Tennessee, for the following:

1. Discussion regarding Property Tax Freeze Act – Public Chapter 581.

October 10, 2007

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

DR. ROBERT L. RAMSEY  
Commission Chairman

ROY CRAWFORD, JR.  
County Clerk

JERRY G. CUNNINGHAM  
County Mayor

November 7, 2006

## General Election

### Constitutional Amendment Questions

#### Constitutional Amendment # 1

Shall Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee be amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. The historical institution and legal contract solemnizing the relationship of one man and one woman shall be the only legally recognized marital contract in this state. Any policy or law or judicial interpretation, purporting to define marriage as anything other than the historical institution and legal contract between one man and one woman, is contrary to the public policy of this state and shall be void and unenforceable in Tennessee. If another state or foreign jurisdiction issues a license for persons to marry and if such marriage is prohibited in this state by the provisions of this section, then the marriage shall be void and unenforceable in this state.

#### Constitutional Amendment # 2

Shall Article II Section 28, of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee be amended by inserting the following language immediately after the fourth paragraph

By general law, the legislature may authorize the following program of tax relief:

(a) The legislative body of any county or municipality may provide by resolution or ordinance that:

(1) Any taxpayer who is sixty-five (65) years of age or older and who owns residential property as the taxpayer's principal place of residence shall pay taxes on such property in an amount not to exceed the maximum amount of tax on such property imposed at the time the ordinance or resolution is adopted;

(2) Any taxpayer who reaches the age of sixty-five (65) after the time the ordinance or resolution is adopted, who owns residential property as the taxpayer's principal place of residence, shall thereafter pay taxes on such property in an amount not to exceed the maximum amount of tax on such property imposed in the tax year in which such taxpayer reaches age sixty-five (65); and

(3) Any taxpayer who is sixty-five (65) years of age or older, who purchases residential property as the taxpayer's principal place of residence after the taxpayer's sixty-fifth birthday, shall pay taxes in an amount not to exceed the maximum amount of tax imposed on such property in the tax year in which such property is purchased.

(b) Whenever the full market value of such property is increased as a result of improvements to such property after the time the ordinance or resolution is adopted, then the assessed value of such property shall be adjusted to include such increased value and the taxes shall also be increased proportionally with the value.

(c) Any taxpayer or taxpayers who own residential property as their principal place of residence whose total or combined annual income or wealth exceeds an amount to be determined by the General Assembly shall not be eligible to receive the tax relief provided in subsection (a) or (b)?

1 Constitutional Amendment #1

2 Constitutional Amendment #2

	1 - Yes	1 - No	2 - Yes	2 - No
ANDERSON	16,931	5,689	18,013	3,498
BEDFORD	9,113	1,319	8,196	1,449
BENTON	4,633	667	3,905	868
BLED SOE	3,484	326	3,077	429
BLOUNT	27,745	6,922	27,224	5,909

November 7, 2006  
General Election

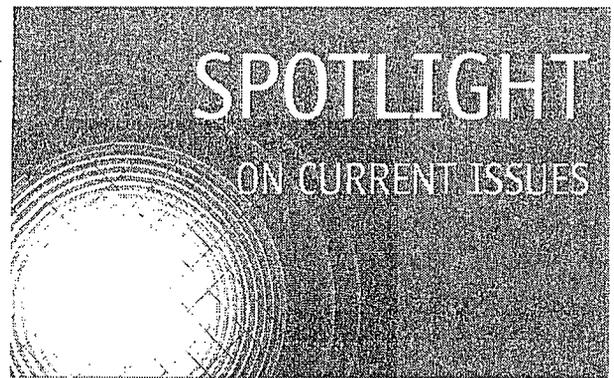
- 1 Constitutional Amendment #1
- 2 Constitutional Amendment #2

	1 - Yes	1 - No	2 - Yes	2 - No
BRADLEY	23,022	3,027	21,523	3,541
CAMPBELL	8,118	1,192	7,063	1,477
CANNON	3,693	510	3,247	669
CARROLL	7,889	878	6,695	1,220
CARTER	14,050	1,929	12,806	2,090
CHEATHAM	9,024	2,110	8,872	1,736
CHESTER	3,777	335	3,338	473
CLAIBORNE	6,189	852	5,387	1,102
CLAY	2,026	323	1,731	348
COCKE	7,975	1,317	7,371	1,397
COFFEE	12,584	2,219	11,947	2,117
CROCKETT	4,023	350	3,543	595
CUMBERLAND	15,446	3,190	15,168	2,667
DAVIDSON	115,451	54,401	125,375	29,463
DECATUR	3,450	288	3,007	386
DEKALB	4,795	674	4,126	805
DICKSON	11,872	2,046	11,188	1,799
DYER	9,351	1,266	8,364	1,713
FAYETTE	10,395	1,471	9,587	1,836
FENTRESS	4,696	473	3,979	744
FRANKLIN	10,261	2,106	9,537	1,743
GIBSON	13,287	1,702	11,743	2,392
GILES	6,931	1,155	6,215	1,273
GRAINGER	4,715	552	4,226	618
GREENE	15,558	2,229	14,507	2,267
GRUNDY	3,377	424	2,986	588
HAMBLEN	14,180	2,020	12,894	2,021
HAMILTON	83,621	20,719	84,464	15,188
HANCOCK	1,642	186	1,296	259
HARDEMAN	5,960	918	5,118	1,193
HARDIN	5,899	703	5,096	1,127
HAWKINS	12,334	1,575	11,047	2,092
HAYWOOD	4,770	680	3,935	1,034
HENDERSON	7,732	647	7,116	851
HENRY	8,169	1,347	7,605	1,362
HICKMAN	5,614	910	5,109	945
HOUSTON	2,166	358	1,998	350
HUMPHREYS	5,190	778	4,651	872
JACKSON	3,266	501	2,892	527
JEFFERSON	10,767	2,031	10,240	1,886
JOHNSON	4,006	645	3,602	740
KNOX	83,906	33,648	89,058	22,797
LAKE	1,259	208	1,053	293
LAUDERDALE	5,818	865	5,097	1,297
LAWRENCE	10,915	1,329	9,272	1,727
LEWIS	3,349	521	3,157	431
LINCOLN	6,331	1,037	5,466	1,362
LOUDON	12,827	2,871	12,451	2,431
MACON	4,805	546	3,975	786
MADISON	24,889	3,776	21,780	5,080

November 7, 2006  
General Election

- 1 Constitutional Amendment #1
- 2 Constitutional Amendment #2

	1 - Yes	1 - No	2 - Yes	2 - No
MARION	7,255	1,115	6,238	1,618
MARSHALL	5,948	1,033	5,398	1,081
MAURY	18,663	3,592	17,887	3,371
MCMINN	11,923	1,611	10,519	1,955
MCNAIRY	6,814	776	5,840	1,395
MEIGS	2,663	418	2,440	407
MONROE	10,639	1,400	9,879	1,411
MONTGOMERY	27,804	7,329	28,237	5,903
MOORE	1,808	246	1,630	238
MORGAN	4,312	551	3,867	622
OBION	8,321	783	6,903	1,231
OVERTON	5,735	638	4,702	822
PERRY	1,968	287	1,760	329
PICKETT	1,844	188	1,526	245
POLK	4,318	573	4,089	526
PUTNAM	16,621	3,242	15,805	2,625
RHEA	7,483	822	6,982	873
ROANE	13,460	3,250	13,039	2,604
ROBERTSON	15,675	2,680	14,048	3,338
RUTHERFORD	48,369	12,302	47,795	9,995
SCOTT	4,469	620	3,777	774
SEQUATCHIE	3,435	583	3,078	575
SEVIER	19,047	3,731	18,307	3,328
SHELBY	204,855	52,048	196,106	46,376
SMITH	5,223	877	4,441	1,123
STEWART	3,605	597	3,397	618
SULLIVAN	36,983	6,656	34,531	6,784
SUMNER	38,374	7,162	37,449	6,218
TIPTON	14,324	1,956	13,824	2,126
TROUSDALE	2,041	398	1,846	405
UNICOI	4,883	651	4,345	745
UNION	3,594	633	3,193	730
VAN BUREN	1,659	229	1,470	272
WARREN	9,684	1,273	8,452	1,365
WASHINGTON	27,300	6,402	26,524	5,399
WAYNE	3,723	327	2,994	534
WEAKLEY	8,448	1,042	7,279	1,479
WHITE	6,735	736	5,806	1,066
WILLIAMSON	46,361	12,693	46,938	8,800
WILSON	29,792	5,325	27,023	4,961
<b>STATEWIDE TOTALS</b>	<b>1,419,434</b>	<b>327,536</b>	<b>1,361,682</b>	<b>278,130</b>



**August 22, 2007**  
**PROPERTY TAX FREEZE ACT**  
**Public Chapter 581**  
**Senate Bill 0002 (Norris) House Bill 1033 (DeBerry J)**

The General Assembly passed the "Property Tax Freeze Act" in June 2007, which will be codified in T.C.A. § 67-5-705. The Act allows the legislative body of any county or municipality to adopt by resolution or ordinance the property tax freeze program established in the Act. The new law does not apply to Special School Districts.

This *Spotlight* sets out the basic requirements of the property tax freeze program. The new law takes effect July 1, 2007, and applies to tax years beginning on and after January 1, 2008. The State Board of Equalization, through the Division of Property Assessments, has promulgated public necessity rules to provide uniform methods of application and administration of the property tax freeze program.

For a copy of the public necessity rules, contact Kelsie Jones, Executive Secretary, State Board of Equalization, Suite 1700, James K. Polk Building, 505 Deaderick Street, Nashville, TN 37243-0280 or via telephone at (615) 747-5379. Additional information about the rules and the implementation of the tax freeze program is available on the Web site of the State Board of Equalization, Division of Property Assessments at [www.comptroller.state.tn.us/pa/taxfreeze.htm](http://www.comptroller.state.tn.us/pa/taxfreeze.htm).

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Act is to provide for the uniform and orderly administration of the property tax freeze program for eligible taxpayers in those jurisdictions adopting the program. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(b).

**NOT INTENDED TO DISPLACE OTHER FORMS OF PROPERTY TAX RELIEF**

The Act specifies that the property tax freeze program is not intended to displace other forms of property tax relief available under existing statutes. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(b).

**PROGRAM RULES**

The property tax freeze program shall conform to any uniform definitions, application forms and requirements, income verification procedures and other necessary or desirable rules, regulations, policies and procedures, not in conflict with T.C.A. § 67-5-705, as may be adopted by the State Board of Equalization through the Division of Property Assessments. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(h). Public necessity rules were promulgated on August 16, 2007. Final rules are expected later this year.

**STATUTORY DEFINITIONS**

**Principal Residence**

"Principal residence" is defined as the dwelling owned by the taxpayer and eligible as the taxpayer's legal residence for voting purposes. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(c)(4).

Under the provisions of the Act, the property tax freeze granted by this section shall only apply to the principal residence and no more than the maximum limit for land established by the program rules. The Act specifies that the program rules shall establish maximum size limits for land that may qualify as a taxpayer's principal residence. The rules shall take into consideration lot size requirements under applicable zoning as well as property actually used to support residential structures; provided, however, such size limit shall not exceed five (5) acres. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(c)(4).

**Base Tax**

"Base tax" is defined as the property tax due on the principal residence of a qualifying taxpayer at the time the jurisdiction levying the tax adopts a resolution or ordinance approving the property tax freeze program. If the taxpayer did not qualify or did not own an eligible residence when the freeze was adopted, "base tax" means the maximum property tax due on the taxpayer's eligible residence for the year in which the taxpayer became eligible on the basis of an approved application. If a taxpayer reapplies after acquiring a new residence, or after a period of ineligibility, the base tax shall be recalculated for the year of reapplication and reestablishment of eligibility. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(c)(1).

**Improvement**

"Improvement" is defined as any change to a dwelling or dwelling lot that would properly

warrant a change by the assessor in the assessed value of the property for the year or portion of the year in which the improvement is made. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(c)(3).

**LOCAL ADOPTION OF THE PROGRAM**

The Act provides that the legislative body of any county or municipality may by resolution or ordinance adopt the property tax freeze program. The county or municipality may thereafter terminate the tax freeze program by resolution or ordinance provided, however, such resolution or ordinance terminating the program shall not have the effect of terminating the program until the following tax year. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(d).

**APPLYING FOR THE PROGRAM**

The Act specifies that the county trustee is the collecting official, or in the case of taxes due a municipality, the county trustee or other official responsible for the collection of property taxes. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(c)(2).

Taxpayers seeking the property tax freeze must apply annually to the collecting official by the deadline established in the program rules. Applicants must qualify on the basis of age, income and ownership of eligible property. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(e)(1).

The collecting official determines whether the requirements for eligibility have been met. The collecting official's determination is final, subject to audit and recovery of taxes, including penalty and interest at the rates otherwise provided for delinquent taxes under T.C.A. § 67-5-2010, if the applicant is later determined to have not been eligible. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(e)(1).

**August 22, 2007**  
**PROPERTY TAX FREEZE ACT**

Any taxpayer who knowingly provides false information concerning the taxpayer's income or other information relative to eligibility for the property tax freeze program commits a Class A misdemeanor. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(e)(1).

**QUALIFYING FOR THE PROGRAM**

**Age**

To qualify for the property tax freeze, the applicant must be sixty-five (65) years of age by the end of the year in which the application is filed.

**Ownership**

The applicant must further own and use the property as the applicant's principal residence for which the tax freeze is sought in the year of application or reapplication and through the deadline date for application or reapplication. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(f)(1).

**Income**

In addition to the qualifications stated above, the applicant's income, combined with the income of any other owners of the property, and the income of any owners of a remainder interest in the property who used the property as their principal place of residence at any time during the year may not exceed the statutory income limit.

Income for purposes of qualification means income from all sources as defined by the program rules. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(f)(2).

The income limit for the property tax freeze program shall be the greater of weighted average of the median household income for age groups sixty-five (65) to seventy-four (74) and seventy-five (75) or over who resided within the county as determined in the most recent federal decennial census, or the applicable state tax relief income limit established under T.C.A. § 67-5-702. This

limit shall be adjusted by the Comptroller of the Treasury to reflect the cost of living adjustment for social security recipients as determined by the social security administration and shall be rounded to the nearest \$10. The adjusted weighted average median household income level for each county shall be published annually by the Comptroller of the Treasury. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(f)(3).

**INCOME VERIFICATION**

The Comptroller of the Treasury is authorized to perform income verification or other related services or assistance at the request of a county or municipality if the county or municipality agrees to pay fees sufficient to reimburse the actual costs of the comptroller in providing such services or assistance, unless or to the extent not appropriated by the General Assembly. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(g)(1).

Financial records filed for purposes of income verification shall be confidential and shall not be subject to inspection under the Tennessee public records act, but shall be available to local or state officials who administer or enforce the provisions of this section or requirements imposed pursuant thereto. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(g)(2).

**TAXES DUE**

If the collecting official approves the taxpayer's application, the property taxes due upon the applicant's principal residence shall be the lesser of:

- (1) The actual tax due; or
- (2) The base tax, provided the base tax shall be adjusted to reflect any percentage increase in the value of the property determined by the assessor to be attributed to improvements made or discovered after the time the base tax was established. T.C.A. § 67-5-705(e)(2).

August 22, 2007  
PROPERTY TAX FREEZE ACT

CTAS MODEL RESOLUTIONS

CTAS advises counties to consider, prior to adopting the property tax freeze program, the projected loss of tax revenues as well as the administrative costs for implementation and administration of the program, including but not limited to, the cost of necessary revisions or additions to computer software programs for tax billing systems, tax appraisal systems, and tax freeze application systems; the number and cost of new employees that may be required in county offices in order to implement and administer the program; and any new office space that may be required.

Before adopting a tax freeze program, the county can form a committee to study the financial and administrative impact of such a program. CTAS has developed a sample resolution for this purpose. Contact your CTAS County Government Consultant for a copy of this resolution or download it from the CTAS Web site at [www.ctas.tennessee.edu](http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu).

CTAS has also prepared a sample resolution for counties wishing to adopt the property tax freeze program. Contact your CTAS County Government Consultant for a copy of this resolution, or download it from the CTAS Web site at [www.ctas.tennessee.edu](http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu).

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE   
COUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE

---

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution.  
CTAS0289 • E15-1570-000-005-08

[www.ctas.tennessee.edu](http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu)

7

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TO ESTABLISH A PROPERTY TAX FREEZE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly has enacted 2007 Public Chapter \_\_\_\_ (Senate Bill 0002/ House Bill 1033) to authorize counties to adopt a property tax freeze program to assist senior low-income residents with payment of their property taxes, which act will take effect on July 1, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Equalization, through its Division of Property Assessments, is required to develop and adopt rules and regulations for the administration of the program, which may include uniform definitions, application forms and requirements, income verification procedures, and other necessary or desirable rules, regulations, policies and procedures not in conflict with the act; and

WHEREAS, the county legislative body of \_\_\_\_\_ County desires to form a Property Tax Freeze Implementation Committee to begin the preliminary work necessary for adoption of the tax freeze program in \_\_\_\_\_ County, and to advise the county legislative body with regard to the implementation and administration of such a program;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the \_\_\_\_\_ County legislative body meeting in \_\_\_\_\_ session at \_\_\_\_\_, Tennessee, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_, that:

SECTION 1. A Property Tax Freeze Implementation Committee is hereby established. The Committee will consist of the county mayor, the county trustee, the assessor of property, the finance director (or director of accounts and budgets, as applicable), and the following members of the county legislative body: \_\_\_\_\_

SECTION 2. The Committee will begin work as soon as possible after enactment of this resolution to analyze and determine the following:

- A. The financial impact on county revenues for the ten-year period following adoption of the property tax freeze program in the county;
- B. Recommended methodology for implementation and administration of the program in the county;
- C. Administrative costs for implementation and administration of the program, including but not limited to the cost of necessary revisions or additions to computer software programs for tax billing systems, tax appraisal systems, and tax freeze application systems; the number and cost of new employees that may be required in county offices in order to implement and administer the program; and any new office space that may be required; and
- D. Such other information and data as the Committee deems relevant.

SECTION 3. When the State Board of Equalization has issued its rules and regulations governing the administration of the program, the Committee shall develop a final proposal to adopt and implement the property tax freeze program and present the proposal to the full county legislative body for its consideration.

SECTION 4. In performing its duties under this resolution, the Committee shall request the assistance of the University of Tennessee's County Technical Assistance Service.

SECTION 5. This resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval, the public welfare requiring it.

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk

RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE PROPERTY TAX FREEZE PROGRAM  
AS PROVIDED FOR IN 2007 PUBLIC CHAPTER 581**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 581 of the Public Acts of 2007, codified in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 67-5-705, is a local option law which authorizes counties to adopt a property tax freeze program; and

**WHEREAS**, the \_\_\_\_\_ County Legislative Body has determined that it is in the best interests of \_\_\_\_\_ County that the county adopt the property tax freeze program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Legislative Body of \_\_\_\_\_ County, meeting this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, that:

**SECTION 1.** The property tax freeze program as provided for in Chapter 581 of the Public Acts of 2007, codified in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 67-5-705, is hereby adopted by the County Legislative Body of \_\_\_\_\_ County.

**SECTION 2.** The property tax freeze program shall be implemented and administered in accordance with *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 67-5-705 and the rules promulgated by the State Board of Equalization through the Division of Property Assessments.

**SECTION 3.** The County Clerk shall file a copy of this resolution with the Division of Property Assessments within 45 days of its adoption.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPROVED: County Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST: County Clerk

# Blount County

*Projections of assessment eligible for senior tax freeze if adopted*

2006	Amount	Percentage
2006 Total Assessment	\$2,639,004,771	100%
2006 Residential Assessment	\$1,657,676,304	63%
2006 Residential Assessment Eligible for Senior Tax Freeze	\$222,406,286	8%
2010	Amount	Percentage
2010 Total Assessment	\$4,423,567,417	100%
2010 Residential Assessment	\$2,388,046,867	54%
2010 Residential Assessment Eligible for Senior Tax Freeze	\$349,391,719	8%
2015	Amount	Percentage
2015 Total Assessment	\$8,437,003,794	100%
2015 Residential Assessment	\$3,768,961,849	45%
2015 Residential Assessment Eligible for Senior Tax Freeze	\$619,660,231	7%
2020	Amount	Percentage
2020 Total Assessment	\$16,091,770,805	100%
2020 Residential Assessment	\$5,948,406,465	37%
2020 Residential Assessment Eligible for Senior Tax Freeze	\$997,714,643	6%

**Notes:**

*Assessments based on historical annual average growth in residential and total assessment beginning with 2006 assessment provided by DPA.*

*Percentage of owner-occupied household projections based on population projections by age group by TACIR/CBER.*

*Assumed percentage of householders within established income limit constant.*

Notice of Rulemaking Hearing

Tennessee State Board of Equalization

There will be a hearing before the Tennessee State Board of Equalization to consider the amendment of rules pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§67-1-305. The hearing will be conducted in the manner prescribed by the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, Tenn. Code Ann. §4-5-204 and will take place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room, at 321 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Tennessee at 10:30 a.m. on the 17th day of September, 2007.

Any individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in these proceedings should contact the Board to discuss any auxiliary aids or services needed to facilitate such participation. Such initial contact should be made no less than ten (10) days prior to the scheduled meeting date, to allow time for the Board to determine how it may reasonably provide such aid or service. Initial contact may be made with the Board's ADA Coordinator, Elaine Driver, at Ste. 1400, 505 Deaderick St., Nashville, TN 37243-0261 and telephone number 615/401-7738.

For a copy of this notice of rulemaking hearing, contact: Kelsie Jones, Ste. 1700, 505 Deaderick St., Nashville, TN 37243-0280, and telephone number 615/747-5379.

Substance of Proposed Amendment  
of the  
State Board of Equalization

Chapter 0600-09  
Property Tax Freeze Program

Table of Contents

- 0600-09-.01 Purpose
- 0600-09-.02 Definitions
- 0600-09-.03 Adoption and Termination of Program by Local Government
- 0600-09-.04 Principal Residence Considerations
- 0600-09-.05 Age Requirement and Verification
- 0600-09-.06 Income Requirement
- 0600-09-.07 Income Verification
- 0600-09-.08 Verification of Ownership and Residency
- 0600-09-.09 Application Process and Deadlines
- 0600-09-.10 Base Tax Amount Determination
- 0600-09-.11 Removal from Program
- 0600-09-.12 Records and Reporting to State

0600-09-.01 Purpose.

The purpose of these rules is implementation of the provisions of Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007 which enacted the Property Tax Freeze Act. The Act allows the legislative body of any county or municipality to adopt a property tax freeze program under the provisions of the Act. The Act provided for the State Board of Equalization, through the Division of Property Assessments, to establish rules and regulations to provide uniform definitions, application forms, income verification procedures and other necessary or desirable rules, regulations, policies and procedures for the implementation of the Property Tax Freeze Program.

Authority: Public Act 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §§67-5-705.

0600-09-.02 Definitions.

For purposes of the tax freeze rules and regulations:

- (1) "Act" or "Tax Freeze Act" means the law codified as Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-705.
- (2) "Affidavit" is hereby defined as a notarized statement under oath which specifies all pertinent data and contains the valid signature of all parties thereto.
- (3) "Base Assessment" means the assessment as determined by the assessor of property used to determine the base tax.
- (4) "Base Tax" as defined by Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-705(c)(1)
- (5) "Collecting official" as defined by Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-705(c)(2).
- (6) "Division" or "Division of Property Assessments" shall mean the Division of Property Assessments in the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury created by Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-1-201.
- (7) "Improvement" as defined by Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-705(c)(3).
- (8) "Owner" means a person that has a present possessory interest in the property fee or life estate, but for the purposes of the income requirement, "owner" includes persons of any interest in the property, including holders of remainder interest, who use the property as their principal residence at any time during the year
- (9) "Principal residence" as defined by Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-705(c)(4). Principal residence shall be determined and limited as provided for in Rule 0600-09-.04.
- (10) "Tax year" means the period of January 1 through December 31 of the year in which property taxes become due.
- (11) "Taxpayer" is hereby defined to be the applicant, except for determination of income.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705

0600-09-.03. Adoption and Termination of Program by Local Government

- (1) Adoption of Tax Freeze Program. The legislative body of any county or municipality adopting the property tax freeze program provided in Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-705 must do so by either resolution or ordinance. Upon adoption of such a resolution or ordinance, the clerk of the legislative body shall file a copy of the resolution or ordinance with the Division of Property Assessments within 45 days of adoption.

- (2) Termination of Tax Freeze Program. The legislative body of any county or municipality which has adopted the property tax freeze program provided in Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-705 may terminate the program by adopting a resolution or ordinance terminating the program. The clerk of the legislative body must file a copy of the resolution or ordinance terminating the program with the Division of Property Assessments within 45 days of adoption. The collecting official shall remove all taxpayers under the tax freeze program for the tax year subsequent to the year in which the resolution or ordinance terminating the program is adopted.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705

0600-09-.04 Principal Residence Considerations.

- (1) Maximum Land Size. The land subject to the tax freeze shall be limited to the portion of land used to support residential structures but no less than the minimum residential lot size required by applicable zoning. In no event may the land portion subject to the tax freeze exceed five (5) acres. For property not used exclusively for residential purposes, including farm, agriculture, forest or open space, only the portion of the land used to support the residential structures, such as that designated as the home site or improvement site on the assessment records, shall be eligible for the tax freeze; however, such land shall not exceed five (5) acres.
- (2) Principal Residence. Collecting officials shall determine a taxpayer's principal residence in accordance with the principles set forth by Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-2-122. The tax freeze is limited to one qualifying property constituting the principal residence of the taxpayer. The taxpayer shall sign a statement that the property for which the tax freeze is sought is the taxpayer's principal residence for voting purposes and that the taxpayer has not submitted another property as the taxpayer's principal residence for any purpose in the jurisdiction, the State of Tennessee or any other state.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705

0600-09-.05 Age Requirement and Verification.

- (1) A taxpayer, in order to satisfy the property tax freeze minimum age requirement, must attain age sixty-five (65) on or before December 31 of the tax year for which the property tax freeze is requested.
- (2) Acceptable evidences are:
  - (a) copy of birth certificate,
  - (b) copy of driver license,
  - (c) copy of medicare card,
  - (d) copy of marriage certificate which states the taxpayer's age,
  - (e) copy of passport,
  - (f) copy of military id,
  - (g) copy of valid census record, or
  - (h) other evidence submitted and approved by the collecting official that offers reasonable proof of age of the applicant.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705

0600-09-.06 Income Requirement.

- (1) A taxpayer, in order to satisfy the income requirement, must not receive a yearly income in excess of the statutory limit. The yearly income will be the total combined income of all property owners for the calendar year required for qualification or re-qualification.
- (2) The annual income declared by the taxpayer is subject to audit control which will include, but is not limited to, comparison of the income amount to social security benefits received for the prior year. The collecting official must place emphasis on the declaration of *ALL* income.
- (3) Annual income from all sources shall include, but is not limited to, social security payments after the medicare deduction, social security disability, supplemental security income, retirement and pension benefits after deduction of healthcare insurance premiums, veteran's benefits, worker's compensation, unemployment compensation, salaries and wages, alimony, total interest and total dividends. For income from a business, farm, rental property, estate settlement, sale of securities, or other comparable source, include only the net income or loss after expenses. Documentation of the loss must be provided with the application. Gain or loss from the sale of a principal residence, AFDC, child support, food stamps, and VA aid and attendance shall not be considered income. Except as otherwise provided by statute or these rules, determinations regarding the income of an applicant or owners of property shall be guided by the federal income tax requirements for determining income. When determining the income using a tax return, the adjusted gross income amount is used. This amount is added to any income sources specified above which may not be taxable by IRS standards.
- (4) Social Security, railroad retirement benefits, and Veterans Administration benefits that are required to be paid to a nursing home for the care of the taxpayer, or co-owner(s), shall not be considered as income. Documentation completed by the nursing home administrator or person handling the taxpayer's business must be provided.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705

0600-09-.07 Income Verification.

- (1) Evidence of income is required and must accompany the application. Acceptable evidence of income shall be the following for applications:
  - (a) A copy of the taxpayer's Federal Income Tax Return for the year in which the qualifying income must be determined, or
  - (b) An affidavit from the taxpayer that the taxpayer did not and was not required to file a Federal Income Tax Return.
- (2) Evidence of income may also include other evidence submitted and approved or required by the collecting official such as bank statements or interest earned statements.
- (3) The collecting official may require the taxpayer to sign any income verification authorization statement or form required by the division, Social Security Administration or the Internal Revenue Service.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705

0600-09-.08 Verification of Ownership and Residency.

- (1) Evidence of ownership and residency is required and must accompany the application. Acceptable evidence of ownership shall include, but not be limited to, a copy of the current year tax notice or receipt for each jurisdiction for which the tax freeze is requested. Acceptable evidence of residency shall include, but not be limited to, a copy of the taxpayer's voter registration card, if available. The collecting official may consider other evidence submitted by the taxpayer that offers reasonable proof of ownership and residency.
- (2) For a new application, before completing the certification, the collecting official must establish that the taxpayer is an owner as shown on the current year tax notice or receipt and the type of ownership interest; or if the taxpayer's name does not appear on the tax notice or receipt, the qualifications of the individual to apply for the tax freeze and the type of ownership must be evidenced. In the event the deed cannot be located, the taxpayer must submit an affidavit explaining the circumstances under which the applicant became the owner of the property.
- (3) The taxpayer must establish ownership by evidence submitted no later than the deadline for filing the application or reapplication established under Rule 0600-09-.09.
- (4) Other considerations of ownership verification are as follows:
  - (a) Life Estate. A holder of a life estate may be eligible for the tax freeze program. If the life estate is not shown on the tax notice/receipt, acceptable evidence must be provided. Acceptable evidence will be a recorded property deed, probated will or other legal instrument conveying the life estate.
  - (b) Mobile Home Owner. An eligible taxpayer owning and whose principal residence is a mobile home may qualify for the tax freeze program if the following is provided in addition to the taxpayer's application.
    1. A title or bill of sale (If a title or bill of sale is not available, an affidavit of purchase or inheritance may be provided.);
    2. In the event the taxpayer does not own the land, information from the assessor showing the assessment value of the mobile home; and
    3. A copy of the tax receipt.
  - (c) If an eligible property tax freeze taxpayer is relocated due to illness or disability, the property tax freeze may continue if the recipient intends to return to the home when recovered sufficiently. In determining whether the recipient intends to return to the home, rental of the home does not of itself evidence an intent not to return. If the rental is month-to-month or otherwise short-term consistent with the expected absence, the recipient may nevertheless be deemed to have an intent to return to the home.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705

0600-09-.09 Application Process and Deadlines.

- (1) The taxpayer must apply within thirty-five (35) days from the date taxes in the jurisdiction of the collecting official become delinquent for the tax year for which the freeze is sought to establish an initial base tax. A taxpayer who has established an initial base tax must reapply and re-qualify within thirty-five (35) days from the date taxes in the jurisdiction of the collecting

official become delinquent for the year preceding the tax year for which the freeze is sought. Provided, however, that if the county trustee acts as the agent for receiving and approving applications on behalf of the municipality, the delinquency date for the county taxes shall be used in determining the deadline for the municipal application or reapplication. A taxpayer who fails to reapply or re-qualify within the time established forfeits eligibility for the program

- (2) For a new application, before completing the certification, the collecting official must establish through application the following:
  - (a) That the taxpayer is an owner and ownership has been established pursuant to Rule 0600-09-.08.
  - (b) That the taxpayer is 65 years or older or will be 65 years or older by the end of the year for which the tax freeze is sought.
  - (c) That the property for which the tax freeze is sought is the principal residence of the taxpayer.
  - (d) That the taxpayer's income does not exceed the maximum income level for the jurisdiction as determined by the Comptroller of the Treasury.
  - (e) That the taxpayer was told to report the income of all owners.
  - (f) That the authority to sign for the owner was established if someone other than the property owner applied or signed the application and a copy of the documentation of authority was provided.
- (3) For a reapplication, before completing the certification, the collecting official must establish through ownership, income, and residency information that the taxpayer reported information consistent with that of prior years and there is no reason to believe the taxpayer misunderstood the instructions.
- (4) A municipality may authorize and appoint the county trustee to act as its agent for receiving applications and determining eligibility for its tax freeze program. Such agency shall be subject to the county trustee agreeing to act as such agent in writing. Such authorization shall be established through the resolution or ordinance provided for under Rule 0600-09-.03 or a subsequent resolution or ordinance. If such agency is authorized, the county trustee may rely on one application from the taxpayer in determining the qualifications and eligibility of the taxpayer for both county and municipality purposes.
- (5) The Division shall develop and furnish forms for the application and reapplication process. A substantially equivalent form may be used, provided that such form is approved by the Division. The Division may make such application and reapplication process available electronically.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705.

#### 0600-09- .10 Base Tax Amount Determination

- (1) The collecting official shall furnish each applicant's name, property address and parcel identification to the assessor of property on or before the fifteenth (15) day after the deadline date for filing the application or reapplication. Within sixty (60) days after the deadline date the assessor shall certify the base assessment for each applicant. Nothing herein shall prevent the collecting official and assessor from exchanging information prior to these deadlines.

- (2) The tax rate for the year for which the base assessment is determined shall be applied to the base assessment to determine the base tax.
- (3) The base tax shall be adjusted when an improvement is made to the structures or land designated a part of the property in determining the base assessment. Such adjustment shall be determined by the assessor of property in accordance with procedures developed by the Division.
- (4) The base tax or adjusted base tax shall be used on the tax roll.
- (5) The base assessment and base tax shall be redetermined when the property is transferred to a new qualifying owner and shall be subject to the application of the new owner. The base assessment and base tax of the new owner shall be determined as of the tax year for which the new owner establishes eligibility.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705.

0600-09-.11 Removal from Program.

Taxpayers that fail to continue to qualify for the tax freeze shall be removed from the program. Upon removal from the program, taxes shall be determined using the current assessment and tax rate for the property.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705.

0600-09-.12 Records and Reporting to State.

- (1) All documents and records of the tax freeze program shall be maintained by the collecting official for a period of five (5) years from the deadline date for the application or reapplication.
- (2) Collecting officials may store the application and any documentation submitted for purposes of verification of income, age, residency, ownership, or other documentation necessary to qualify for the tax freeze in an electronic format and storage medium
- (3) Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-705(g)(2) the financial records obtained by the collecting official shall be considered confidential but shall be available to local or state officials who administer or enforce the provisions of the tax freeze program.
- (4) The collecting official shall furnish the following information to the Division on or before December 15 of each year:
  - (a) the total number of taxpayers on the tax freeze program by jurisdiction,
  - (b) the aggregate amount of actual taxes subject to the tax freeze,
  - (c) the aggregate amount of the frozen taxes; and
  - (d) other such information required by the Division.

Authority: Public Chapter 581, Acts of 2007, T.C.A. §67-5-705.

The notice of rulemaking set out herein was properly filed in the Department of State on the 27th day of July, 2007. (FS 07-19-07; DBID 687)

## Estimated Annual Cost of Property Tax Freeze Program

The Property Tax costs below represent estimated costs to the Property Tax base only when tax increases or reappraisal occurs. The cost to the current tax base is \$0. The administrative costs below represent only the estimated annual costs to the Trustee's Office. The Information Technology Department as well as the Property Assessor's Office could also be affected.

### Estimated Property Tax Costs:

Cost to Current Property Tax Base	<u>\$0</u>
Cost if Property Tax Increase (per each one cent increase)	<u>\$22,241</u> *
Cost in a Reappraisal Year (2010 is next reappraisal)	<u>\$??????</u> **

### Estimated Annual Administrative Costs in the Trustee's Office:

<u>Part-Time Employee in Trustee's Office</u>	<u>\$17,000</u> ***
<u>Possible Cost of Income Verification by State</u>	<u>\$7,800</u> ****

\* Cost per each one cent of Property Tax increase is based on estimates given by the State of Tennessee, Comptroller of the Treasury (see attachment). If one penny currently generates \$255,000, any new pennies would only generate \$232,759 so any increase in the tax rate would have to be higher than normal to generate a certain amount of new revenue (For example, if the County needed \$3,000,000 annually in new revenue to fund the opening of a new school, the increase without a tax freeze would be 11.8 cents on the tax rate – with a tax freeze the increase would have to be 12.9 cents). The cost to new pennies could increase over time with growth in the population in this age and income bracket.

\*\* Cost to Blount County in a reappraisal year would vary depending on the average value increase of the property owned by qualified applicants (For example in a reappraisal year the tax rate may decrease 10%, but the average value of the applicants' property may increase 20%. This would normally generate additional tax dollars, but if their taxes are frozen the cost to the County would be the difference between the frozen amount and the additional tax dollars that would have been generated if not frozen. This could work the opposite way as well, so the cost in a reappraisal year is currently unknown).

\*\*\*Estimate includes salary, taxes, and related employee costs. An additional part-time employee would be needed in the Trustee's Office to handle the annual application process for qualifying citizens. According to the data from the State, up to **5,085** households could qualify for the program. The application, verification, and filing process could take anywhere from 15 minutes to 45 minutes each depending on the circumstances and the individual. This amount of time spent would certainly justify a new full-time position, but the Trustee's Office will attempt to manage as much of this additional workload as possible with the current staff and the additional part-time employee. Keep in mind the Trustee's Office is very conservative and has not added a full-time employee position to its budget in over 17 years. This minimal cost can serve as a first year estimate.

\*\*\*\*The cost of income verification by the State is based on 5,085 households excluding approximately 1,200 already checked through Tax Relief at \$2.00 each. This is an estimate because we do not know the exact number of applicants nor have we received a cost estimate from the State for the verification. Income verification may be free or it may cost \$10 each? No funds desired in budget until this is known.

Updated: October 2, 2007

Property Tax Freeze - Impact Projections Per \$0.01 Increase in Property Tax Rate  
Combined Household Income by County Age 65 or Over from 2000 Census with  
Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustment and \$24,000 Minimum Income Limit

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
County	City	SSD	2006 Tax Rate	Total Single Family Households	Owner Occupied Households 65 or Over	% Owner Occupied 65 or Over	2006 Assessment for Residence Properties	Combined Household Income Age 65 or Over	% of 65 or Over within Income Limit	Projected Impact Per \$0.01 Tax Rate Increase	Actual Tax Levy Per \$0.01 In 2006	% Impact on Tax Rate Increase
ANDERSON	CLINTON		\$2,820.00	25,611	6,506	25.40%	\$110,846,746	\$33,651	60.4%	-\$10,906	\$124,873	-8.7%
ANDERSON	LAKE CITY		\$0.7500			25.40%	\$88,188,982	\$33,651	60.4%	-\$1,353	\$23,839	-5.7%
ANDERSON	NORRIS		\$1.6000			25.40%	\$7,054,445	\$33,651	60.4%	-\$108	\$2,042	-5.3%
ANDERSON	OAK RIDGE		\$2.5500			25.40%	\$22,650,977	\$33,651	60.4%	-\$348	\$2,786	-12.5%
ANDERSON	OLIVER SPGS		\$1.0200			25.40%	\$261,446,258	\$33,651	60.4%	-\$4,011	\$51,809	-7.7%
BEDFORD	BELL BUCKLE		\$2,270.00	12,847	2,632	20.49%	\$430,103,257	\$27,316	56.7%	-\$279	\$3,016	-9.3%
BEDFORD	NORMANDY		\$0.1532			20.49%	\$3,815,978	\$27,316	56.7%	-\$44	\$566	-7.8%
BEDFORD	SHELBYVILLE		\$0.1973			20.49%	\$1,076,530	\$27,316	56.7%	-\$13	\$141	-9.2%
BEDFORD	WARTRACE		\$1.4100			20.49%	\$126,126,995	\$27,316	56.7%	-\$1,465	\$35,349	-4.1%
BENTON	BIG SANDY		\$1.0000			20.49%	\$5,334,894	\$27,316	56.7%	-\$62	\$843	-7.4%
BENTON	CAMDEN		\$2,750.00	6,582	1,820	27.65%	\$117,004,091	\$24,000	59.2%	-\$1,915	\$19,405	-9.9%
BENTON	PIKEVILLE		\$0.8700			27.65%	\$2,542,025	\$24,000	59.2%	-\$42	\$440	-9.5%
BENTON	ALCOA		\$0.6400			27.65%	\$23,361,924	\$24,000	59.2%	-\$382	\$5,202	-7.3%
BLEDOSOE	BLOUNT		\$1.9047	4,239	794	18.73%	\$95,515,966	\$24,000	67.6%	-\$1,209	\$16,169	-7.5%
BLEDOSOE	ALCOA		\$0.6600			22.25%	\$9,319,744	\$24,000	67.6%	-\$118	\$2,885	-4.1%
BLOUNT	MARYVILLE		\$2,180.00	31,899	8,433	26.25%	\$1,657,676,304	\$31,221	60.3%	-\$2,241	\$263,900	-8.4%
BLOUNT	CHARLESTON		\$1.9500			22.25%	\$341,139,119	\$31,221	60.3%	-\$1,261	\$37,963	-3.3%
BLOUNT	CLEVELAND		\$2,020.00	21,992	5,347	19.10%	\$876,294,367	\$26,421	57.3%	-\$9,590	\$68,288	-6.7%
BRADLEY	FIRE DISTRICT		\$0.4800			19.10%	\$4,620,925	\$26,421	57.3%	-\$51	\$1,110	-4.6%
BRADLEY	FIRE DISTRICT 2		\$0.4600			19.10%	\$323,213,649	\$26,421	57.3%	-\$3,537	\$93,145	-3.8%
CAMPBELL	JELICO		\$0.1200	14,587	3,382	23.19%	\$272,832,383	\$26,421	57.3%	-\$2,986	\$34,574	-8.6%
CAMPBELL	LAFOLLETTE		\$1.0000			23.19%	\$9,927,939	\$24,000	64.9%	-\$4,886	\$39,658	-7.6%
CAMPBELL	LAKE CITY		\$1.3900			23.19%	\$34,667,664	\$24,000	64.9%	-\$149	\$59,154	-8.3%
CANNON	WOODBURY		\$2,640.00	4,704	1,059	22.51%	\$211,650	\$24,000	64.9%	-\$3	\$2,446	-6.1%
CARROLL	BRUCETON		\$1.0600	11,193	2,977	26.60%	\$173,022,917	\$24,308	57.8%	-\$1,362	\$189	-1.6%
CARROLL	HOLLOW ROCK		\$0.8400			26.60%	\$6,965,607	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$197	\$15,762	-8.6%
CARROLL	HUNTINGDON		\$1.2900			26.60%	\$3,664,197	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$2,761	\$3,247	-6.1%
CARROLL	MCKENZIE		\$1.0500			26.60%	\$28,202,693	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$111	\$28,423	-8.7%
CARROLL	MCKENZIE SSD		\$0.7900			26.60%	\$26,535,962	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$58	\$1,410	-7.9%
CARROLL	TREZEVANT		\$0.6900			26.60%	\$1,873,104	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$424	\$5,193	-12.0%
CARROLL	HR-BR SSD		\$1.5500			26.60%	\$4,089,081	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$30	\$4,945	-8.6%
CARROLL	HGDN SSD		\$1.5300			26.60%	\$20,210,856	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$65	\$294	-10.2%
CARROLL	MCKENZIE SSD		\$1.4100			26.60%	\$50,490,966	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$233	\$586	-11.1%
CARROLL	S CARROLL SSD		\$1.8100			26.60%	\$45,589,678	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$806	\$3,474	-9.3%
CARROLL	W CARROLL SSD		\$2,100.00	20,807	4,987	24.02%	\$15,047,282	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$240	\$9,304	-9.7%
CARTER	ELIZABETHTON		\$1.7800			24.02%	\$41,704,115	\$25,092	60.0%	-\$666	\$2,252	-10.7%
CARTER	JOHNSON CITY		\$1.8000			24.02%	\$457,001,920	\$24,000	64.3%	-\$7,058	\$6,199	-10.7%
CARTER	WATAUGA		\$0.3100			24.02%	\$105,834,259	\$24,000	64.3%	-\$1,635	\$68,711	-10.3%
CHEATHAM	ASHLAND CITY		\$0.5500	12,380	1,778	14.36%	\$9,016,725	\$24,000	64.3%	-\$139	\$21,806	-7.6%
CHEATHAM	KINGSTON SPGS		\$0.2800			14.36%	\$2,401,120	\$24,000	64.3%	-\$37	\$1,824	-8.0%
CHEATHAM	KINGSTON SPGS RF		\$0.2680			14.36%	\$331,199,754	\$33,643	60.9%	-\$3,421	\$53,654	-6.4%
							\$31,540,691	\$33,643	60.9%	-\$276	\$9,571	-2.9%
							\$37,460,182	\$33,643	60.9%	-\$328	\$5,044	-6.5%
							\$45,924,836	\$33,643	60.9%	-\$402	\$5,433	-7.4%

## **ADDITION TO COST ESTIMATE FOR PROPERTY TAX FREEZE PROGRAM**

### **IF PASSED BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2008**

This is to inform you that there will be additional one-time costs associated with the Property Tax Freeze Program if passed before January 1, 2008. If the Program is passed on or before December 31, 2007, the Trustee's Office would need to mail a letter informing all Blount County property owners of the existence of the new program. The letter would contain directions on how and when to apply because according to State guidelines the application would have to be received by the County within 35 days of March 1, 2008. If the Property Tax Freeze Program is passed in Blount County after January 1, 2008, a letter could be mailed to each property owner along with their **2008** Property Tax Notice in September 2008. In this case, it appears there would be no additional postage and envelope costs that would warrant an increase in the budget. The following shows the estimated costs associated with mailing the letter:

<b>Estimated One-time Postage Cost</b>	<b><u>\$23,000</u></b>
<b>Estimated Envelope Cost</b>	<b><u>\$1,700</u></b>
<b>Cost of the Letter (should be able to afford in current budget)</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_

INFORMATION  
ONLY

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE PROPERTY TAX FREEZE PROGRAM  
AS PROVIDED FOR IN 2007 PUBLIC CHAPTER 581**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 581 of the Public Acts of 2007, codified in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 67-5-705, is a local option law which authorizes counties to adopt a property tax freeze program; and

**WHEREAS**, the \_\_\_\_\_ County Legislative Body has determined that it is in the best interests of \_\_\_\_\_ County that the county adopt the property tax freeze program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Legislative Body of \_\_\_\_\_ County, meeting this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, that:

**SECTION 1.** The property tax freeze program as provided for in Chapter 581 of the Public Acts of 2007, codified in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 67-5-705, is hereby adopted by the County Legislative Body of \_\_\_\_\_ County.

**SECTION 2.** The property tax freeze program shall be implemented and administered in accordance with *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 67-5-705 and the rules promulgated by the State Board of Equalization through the Division of Property Assessments.

**SECTION 3.** The County Clerk shall file a copy of this resolution with the Division of Property Assessments within 45 days of its adoption.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPROVED: County Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST: County Clerk