

Alderman pushes for property tax cap

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November 18, 2009 (CHICAGO) (WLS) -- A Chicago alderman is calling on state lawmakers to extend legislation that caps property tax increases.

A number of community groups support the effort of 47th Ward alderman Gene Schuler. He says homeowners across Illinois are struggling to pay their property taxes and fear losing their homes.

The 'expanded homeowners exemption' would limit increases to 7 percent.

It appears Schuler has the support of at least one state lawmaker who believes even more should be done.

"At the end of the day and in these times in particular we cannot fix a broken system on the backs of homeowners and families across Cook County. We need to fundamentally change how we assess taxes property in Cook County," said Il. Rep. John Fritchey, (D) Chicago.

Schuler says without an extension the average Chicagoan could see their property tax bill jump \$750 next year.

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