

Rep. Rob Brooks: Bill Reaffirming Property Rights Introduced

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Madison, WI—Last week, State Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) and State Senator Dave Craig (R-Town of Vernon) introduced legislation designed to protect the rights of Wisconsin homeowners. LRB-2561 confirms that a homeowner has the right to deny entrance to a property assessor while not forfeiting their right to appear before the Board of Review. Current law stipulates that a property owner may deny entry to an assessor if the owner has given prior notice to the assessor that they may not enter the property.

“Currently if a homeowner denies a property assessor’s entry to their residence, they subsequently forfeit their right to challenge an increased assessment before the Board of Review. This legislation not only provides homeowners with information confirming their property rights, but also allows them to preserve their right to appear before the Board of Review,” stated Representative Rob Brooks. Additionally, LRB-2561 extends the right to appear before the Board of Review if a property owner fails to comply with the request to provide income information related to the property. Current law precludes property owners the right to appear before the Board of Review or challenge an increased property assessment if income information is not provided. This legislation merely codifies the best practices elucidated in state statutes.

“For too long, property owners have been strained with complex and confusing income reporting requirements from some municipalities. Under our bill, if a property owner does not provide income information to an assessor, they may challenge an increased assessment before the Board of Review and provide the necessary documents at that time,” Representative Rob Brooks said.