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 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: State Representative Marie Woodson's Homestead Exemption for Seniors Bill Passes First House Committee

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State Representative Marie Woodson's Homestead Exemption for Seniors Bill Passes First House Committee

TALLAHASSEE, Fla – Freshman State **Representative Marie Woodson (D-Hollywood)** celebrated a major legislative milestone today in having her first bill pass its first House committee unopposed.

The measure, <u>House Bill 597</u>, passed the House Ways & Means Committee with a 16-0 vote.

"I'm grateful that **Chair Bobby Payne (R-Bradford)** graciously placed this bill on the agenda and that my colleagues voted in favor of my first House bill," said **Representative Woodson**. "This bill will make life easier for our seniors in the State of Florida who are trying to make ends meet during these difficult times and beyond. A special thanks to **Marty Kiar, Broward County Property Appraiser**, for all his help with this bill as well."

"Thank you to **Representative Woodson** for her hard work on behalf of thousands of Florida seniors. <u>HB 597</u> passed the Florida House Ways & Means Committee in a unanimous, bipartisan manner. This bill will simplify and streamline the process for Florida's seniors to renew their Senior Exemption each year by allowing for automatic renewal of this important exemption while still maintaining its integrity," said **Marty Kiar, Broward County Property Appraiser**.

State **Senator Tina Polsky (D-Boca Raton)** sponsors <u>CS/SB 1256</u>, <u>HB 597</u>'s Senate companion bill. <u>CS/SB 1256</u> also passed its first Senate Committee last week with unanimous support. The <u>Senate version of the bill</u> is now on the agenda for the Senate Finance and Tax Committee meeting to be held on Friday, March 26 at 9:00 a.m.

Representative Woodson's bill moves to the House Local Administration & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee next.