

For Immediate Release: May 28, 2014 For Information Contact: Joseph Perone or Chris Santarelli 609-633-6565

Christie Administration Extends Filing Deadline by three months for Property Tax Reimbursement Program for Seniors and the Disabled

TRENTON – Gov. Chris Christie is expanding access to tax relief for New Jersey residents by extending the filing deadline for applications to the Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement Program) to Sept. 15, 2014.

The original deadline for filing Senior Freeze applications for 2013 was June 2, 2014.

"We want every resident who is eligible for property tax relief benefits under the Senior Freeze Program to have the opportunity to apply for them," State Treasurer Andrew Sidamon-Eristoff said. "Extending the deadline helps ensure that residents will have ample time to apply for this valuable benefit if they were unaware of — or could not meet — the old deadline."

Last year, 177,000 senior and disabled New Jersey residents received Senior Freeze checks that averaged almost \$1,200 per recipient. The Division of Taxation mailed 2013 Senior Freeze application booklets in February to current participants as well as other residents who may be eligible for the program.

The Division plans to mail reimbursement checks to eligible seniors and disabled residents who file their 2013 applications by the original June 2 deadline in mid-July. Checks for eligible applicants who file 2013 applications after June 2 will be processed and delivered as quickly as possible thereafter.

"The Senior Freeze Program benefits senior citizens and disabled persons by reimbursing them for property tax increases," Division of Taxation Director Michael Bryan explained. "Applicants can receive benefits under the Senior Freeze Program and any of the State's other property tax relief programs for which they qualify. However, the total amount of property tax relief benefits received cannot exceed the amount of property taxes paid on their principal residence for the same year."

For more information on the 2013 Senior Freeze Program, or to obtain an application, residents can contact the Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement) Hotline at 1-800-882-6597 or visit one of the Taxation Regional Offices around the State. Representatives are available by phone or in person from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Directions to the Regional Offices are available at: www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/ot1.shtml.

Information about the Senior Freeze Program, including the eligibility requirements, is also available on the Division of Taxation's Web site at: www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/ptr/buffer.shtml.

################