

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Homestead Property Tax Credit – Implementation Update

Following voter approval of the Homestead Property Tax Credit in several Missouri counties on April 7, 2026 Here in McDonald County --- It passed with Yes: 800 | No: 238

County officials are providing an update regarding the status and implementation of the program. We respectfully ask for the public's patience and understanding at this time, as the County has not yet received sufficient guidance to answer many implementation questions. As additional information becomes available, the County remains committed to keeping residents informed of any legal or administrative updates.

The measure originates from Senate Bill 3 (SB 3), passed by the Missouri General Assembly on June 5, 2025, and signed into law by Governor Mike Kehoe on June 14, 2025. The legislation was sponsored by State Senator Kurtis Gregory and co-sponsored by Representative Chris Brown.

At this time, counties across Missouri face significant uncertainty regarding implementation. Unlike existing programs such as the Senior Tax Credit, SB 3 does not provide clear administrative guidance for local offices. As a result, counties currently lack the necessary direction to effectively establish and manage the program.

Additionally, the law is presently subject to legal challenges regarding its constitutionality. These proceedings are ongoing, and the outcome will determine whether the program can be implemented. If the courts invalidate the law, the measure will not take effect, regardless of voter approval.

Due to legal and ethical constraints, the County Clerk's office was unable to publicly address these concerns prior to the election, as doing so could have been interpreted as electioneering. Should the law be upheld, further guidance from the State is anticipated; however, implementation details may not be fully available until 2027. In the interim, the County will continue to monitor developments and provide updates as new information becomes available.

Residents are encouraged to review the Questions and Answers previously published on the County's website prior to the election.

<https://mcdonaldcountymo.gov/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/Elections/2026/PLAIN-LANGUAGE-BALLOT-APRIL-SB3-.pdf>

Important Notice:

If SB 3 or the County's corresponding ordinance is overturned through the court system, the Homestead Property Tax Credit program will not be implemented. The County remains committed to keeping residents informed of any legal or administrative changes.

What did this cost taxpayers?

Placing this question on the April 2026 ballot was required by Missouri State law and has cost McDonald County taxpayers approximately **\$18,000** *whether implemented or not*. Not including the \$15,000 to program the automated tabulating equipment and cards.