



AMVETS

Department of Ohio

House Bill 282 Testimony

American Veterans Department of Ohio (AMVETS)

Don McCauley Executive Director

House Finance Committee

Thursday, October 24, 2019

Chairman Oelslager, Vice Chairman Scherer, Ranking Member Cera and the remaining esteem members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify before you today on behalf of House Bill 282. I am Don McCauley, Executive Director for The AMVETS Department of Ohio.

The American Veterans Department of Ohio (AMVETS) was founded on June 14, 1946 as an advocate for veterans returning home from World War II and we have continued that commitment in Ohio for these past 73 years. AMVETS is the only Congressionally chartered veteran's organization whose membership is open to all veterans who served honorably, are active duty, active reserve, or National Guard after September 15, 1940.

The AMVETS Department of Ohio is a strong proponent of House Bill 282; our posts around the state, their communities, and the charities they support rely on the income from the current instant bingo known as class 3 bingo. Additionally, the new video instant bingo will modernize our posts, allowing them the ability to increase revenues and provide the additional means necessary to continue our philanthropy throughout the state as well as support our financially struggling posts to maintain their existence.

Examples of the charitable work done by our posts that would benefit from the potential increased revenue include but are not limited to, financial assistance to veterans when the governmental agencies cannot respond as needed. In addition, the increased revenue would also help the 501(c)3 Charities that benefit from the bingo revenue generated in our posts.

In closing, The AMVETS Department of Ohio was founded not only to advocate for veterans but also to assist them in times of need; this potential increased revenue would allow us to continue our mission and more.

Chairman Oelslager , Vice Chairmen Scherer, Ranking member Cera thank you for allowing me to testify before you and the rest of the esteem members of this House Finance Committee.