

Frank Hoagland
State Senator
30th District



Sponsor Testimony- Senate Bill 335
Ohio Senate Ways and Means Committee
November 15th, 2022

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Roegner, Ranking Member Williams and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 335.

Senate Bill 335 replaces the partial homestead exemption for disabled veterans with an enhanced homestead exemption for ALL honorably disabled veterans. This exemption extends to the surviving spouse of a veteran.

Many states offer homestead exemptions. Common exemptions include those for disabled veterans, current and honorably discharged veterans and veterans who are 65 years of age or older. Ohio currently offers homestead exemptions for 100% disabled veterans, only, even that exemption is non-substantial.

So I ask, what if you are 50%-90% disabled, and are required to wait decades to qualify for homestead exemptions not related to disability, but age? I have friends who are missing limbs, who do not meet that qualification of disability.

Veterans deserve this opportunity foremost because of the sacrifices they made, to include writing a blank check to keep this country free.

I believe a homestead exemption for all disabled veterans, prorated by their VA disability rating percentage will spur economic development and enhance life outcomes for our veterans who have endured unimaginable pain and suffering defending this great nation. Many veterans are self-motivated and will use those savings toward business growth and personal development. I believe that giving them this exemption will provide much needed economic relief to these veterans and their families at a time like now when they need all the help they can get. Many are on a fixed income, and this would help fend off some of the sting of our current inflation levels.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony for Senate Bill 335.