



AMVETS

Department of Ohio

Proponent Written Testimony for the Ohio Senate Ways and Means Committee

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S.B. No. 335 – To amend sections 323.151, 323.152, 323.153, 4503.065, 4503.066 and 5901.07 to the Revised Code to modify the homestead property tax exemptions for disabled veterans.

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Roegner, Ranking Member Martin and the other honorable members of the Ohio Senate Ways and Means Committee. I am Don McCauley, U.S. Army Veteran and Executive Director for the AMVETS Department of Ohio. I would like to thank each of you for the opportunity you have afforded me to provide proponent testimony for Senate Bill 335.

Currently, all 50 States and the District of Columbia allow some type of property tax exemption for veterans on their primary residence. In most States including Ohio, these exemptions are only awarded to veterans who have received a 100% disability rating from the Veterans Administration. However, in 5 States Connecticut, Indiana, Massachusetts, Texas, and Utah, the exemptions begin when a veteran is awarded a minimum disability rating of 10% from the Veterans Administration. It is our hope that Ohio will become the sixth State to implement such a tax exemption law to veterans with a minimum disability rating of 10%.

With all the forecasted economic growth that is coming to Ohio, passing this bill will show the nationwide veteran community that Ohio is the most veteran friendly State in the Nation, and

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they should consider making this their home. Historically, it has shown that veterans are typically excellent employees who are dependable, disciplined and well trained.

Current statistics show that the population of Ohio is approximately 11.75 million and the number of service-connected veterans residing in Ohio is approximately 162,056 or less than 1.4% of the population. Based on these numbers, the expense to the State for reimbursement to the counties would be minimum, but the assistance to these veterans would be immensely helpful.

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Roegner, Ranking Member Martin and the other honorable members of the Ohio Senate Ways and Means Committee

I once again thank you for allowing me to provide proponent testimony for Senate Bill 335 and urge you to vote this bill out of committee and send it to the full Senate. At this time, I will entertain questions that any member of this committee might have.

10%	32,245
20%	14,720
30%	12,612
40%	12,933
50%	9,414
60%	13,890
70%	14,711
80%	14,247
90%	12,222
100%	25,062
Total	162,056