



Department of Ohio, District 12

Nicolette Bolte, Commander

Robert Leach, Quartermaster

**TO:** Honorable Bill Roemer, Chair, House Ways and Means Committee  
Honorable Brian Lorenz, Vice Chair, House Ways and Means Committee  
Honorable Daniel P. Troy, Ranking Member, House Ways and Means Committee  
**FROM:** Andrea M. Neutzling, Senior Vice Commander, District 12, Veterans of Foreign Wars Dept. of Ohio  
**DATE:** November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
**RE: IN PROPONENT OF HB 254 (135<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY)**

Chairman Roemer, Vice Chairman Lorenz, Ranking Member Troy and other Honorable members of the House Ways and Means Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony for House Bill 254.

My name is Andrea Neutzling, I am the Legislative Chair and Senior Vice Commander of District 12 for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Ohio. I'm here today on behalf of my District which covers House Districts 90, 91, 92, 93 and 94. I am a 100% Service-Connected Veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During the Governor's speech at the 2023 Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, he talked about making Ohio the most Veteran friendly state. As I heard him say this, I thought to myself, that we, Ohio, has a long way to go in order to be the most Veteran friendly state in the United States of America. There are 18 states that have Full property tax exemptions, some of which also have limiting factors to qualify.

House Bill 254 is one of the only bills that I have seen so far that moves us in the direction of being one of the most veteran friendly states. I have many friends that have moved outside of Ohio because of the property tax exemptions that the states that they have moved to provide.

The exemption won't only help Ohio in becoming the best, it could also boost the economy. Bringing in veterans and their families into Ohio and those currently living in Ohio will have more money to spend within the state as they won't have a higher mortgage payment due to the lower property taxes or in the case of those who are 100%, no property taxes. By boosting the economy, we may have new businesses that may look towards opening more offices throughout the state which would then create more jobs and give another boost to the state's economy.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the House Ways and Means Committee to pass this bill and help make Ohio one of the most Veteran friendly states in our nation and give our state a economic boost.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Neutzling", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Andrea M. Neutzling  
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