



AMVETS

Department of Ohio

Proponent Written Testimony for the
Ohio Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee

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S.B. No. 12 - To amend sections 122.87, 122.925, 125.08, 125.081, and 4503.03 and to enact section 122.926 of the Revised Code to establish a veteran-owned business enterprise certification program and to allow duly certified veteran-owned business enterprises to compete for purchases set aside by state agencies.

Chairman Lang, Vice Chairman Wilken, Ranking Member Sykes and other honorable members of the Ohio Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee. I am Don McCauley, U.S. Army Veteran and Executive Director of the AMVETS Department of Ohio. I would like to thank each of you for allowing me the opportunity you have afforded me to provide proponent testimony for Senate Bill 12.

As defined in the Ohio Revised Code Section (ORC) 125.081 currently, 15% of the purchases made by the department of administrative services as required by law through competitive selection are required to be fulfilled by the minority business enterprise whose members are identified in ORC 122.71 that group is made up of the following economically disadvantaged groups: Blacks or African Americans, American Indians, Hispanic or Latinos, and Asians.

Senate Bill 12 does not take away from the economically disadvantaged groups currently identified in ORC 122.71 instead it increases the amount from 15% to 20% in which 25% (5%) of that the 20% amount will be set aside for veteran owned businesses that meet the



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qualifications as defined in ORC 122.926 while the other 75% (15%) will remain with the currently identified members of the economically disadvantaged group defined in ORC 122.71.

With all the forecasted economic growth that is coming to Ohio, passing this will show the nationwide veteran community business owners that Ohio should not be considered just a veteran friendly state it should be considered a veteran state.

Chairman Lang, Vice Chairman Wilken, Ranking Member Sykes and other honorable members of the Ohio Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee I once again thank you for allowing me to provide proponent testimony for Senate Bill 12 and I 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.