



**Tim Williams, Executive Director
Ohio Manufactured Homes Association
Senate Ways and Means Committee
Senate Bill 43 proponent testimony
February 22, 2023**

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Roegner, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Since 1947 the Ohio Manufactured Homes Association (OMHA) has represented all segments of the manufactured housing industry providing affordable housing to over 900,000 Ohioans living in manufactured homes. On behalf of the Ohio Manufactured Homes Association, I am providing a proponent statement on Senate Bill 43.

The bill is structured to address a gap in homestead tax exemption laws for disabled veterans and their surviving spouses. The gap the bill is attempting to correct is to allow for the homestead exemption to exist for the surviving spouse if a veteran deceases prior to the determination of the veteran's disability status. If the law is updated to correct this gap, the same restrictions would apply for the surviving spouse to continue to own and occupy the property and not remarry.

Senate Bill 43 is a common sense piece of legislation that seeks to address a narrow and hopefully rare situation involving Ohio's disabled veterans and their spouses. The Ohio Manufactured Homes Association gladly supports Senate Bill 43 to correct this issue to provide the surviving spouse of Ohio's disabled veterans comfort of this tax relief during a difficult time. This bill represents the commitment all our communities make to honor the sacrifices our veterans made in the defense of this state and nation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, for the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Bill 43, we urge immediate passage.