

July 21, 2021

To: House Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Committee
General Assembly of the State Of Ohio
Regular Session 2021-2022

From: John Bar Hoover
2107 Timber Creek
Cortland, OH 44410

RE: Veteran Information Act Proposal / Senate Bill 160

Dear Legislators:

I would like to offer this testimony of support for the Veteran Information legislation before you. I served in The United States Air Force during Vietnam and I am 100% serviced connected, a disability rating from the VA due to a service related injury having been exposed to agent orange, who is currently utilizing the nursing facility benefit.

Recently I fell and fractured my right humerus making it difficult to perform certain daily tasks in addition to making it difficult to assist my disabled son. Since I am a "service connected" veteran one of the healthcare benefits that I am entitled to is the right to stay at a VA provider like Washington Square Healthcare at no cost to me. I was not aware when I left the service that my exposure to Agent Orange would cause health problems later in life and I was fortunate enough when I developed issues to get directed to organizations like the DAV and Trumbull County Veteran's Service Commission. Now since I am already service connected I was aware of how to get information regarding benefits like my current stay at Washington Square. I can tell you I was not provided this information at the local hospital that cared for my fractured arm and I know there are a lot of veterans out there who are not getting the benefits they deserve. This legislation will make it easier for a Veteran to make that connection to organizations that can help.

Using benefits like the one that covers my stay at Washington Square provides me with piece of mind that I can receive good healthcare without the burden of financial hardship. This legislation is the first step to helping other veterans by providing them with information where they can get help for a variety of services so I hope you will support and pass this Veteran Information Act.

Respectfully,



John Bar Hoover
U.S. Air Force Veteran
