

July 21, 2021

To: House Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Committee
134th General Assembly of the State of Ohio
Regular Session 2021-2022

From: Patricia Clawges
2510 Henn Hyde Road NW
Warren, OH 44484

RE: Veteran Information Act Proposal / Senate Bill 160

Dear Legislators:

My name is Patricia Clawges and my father Kenneth Wiland served in the United States Army it is on his behalf as well as the Wiland family that I am writing to ask you for your support for the proposed Veteran Information Act.

My father served our country proudly and was honorably discharged not expecting anything based off of his service time however when my mother fell ill and it was too expensive for her care our family sought out help through our local Trumbull County VA Service Commission. Although my father is not a service connected Veteran he was granted aid and attendance to help care for my mother which was a huge relief. Later after my mother had passed my fathers health began to worsen and once again we were struggling to provide care at home. The home care was expensive and extremely unreliable and that is when a friend told us about the VA benefit they were using for their father at Washington Square to pay for the room and board. My father was admitted to Washington Square in 2019 under this benefit which is eligible to ALL Veterans who require Hospice services. It was solely by "luck" we obtained information on these benefits and speaking first hand it has been a blessing for our family.

The Wiland family would like to ask all of you in the 134th General Assembly to support this legislation put forward by Senators O'Brien and Hoagland so that more Ohio Veteran's and their families can obtain the information about VA benefits easier and without the need for "luck". Please pass the Veterans Information Act and help Ohio Veterans receive the benefits that are available to them and that they earned for their service to our country.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Clawges". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Patricia Clawges