

Ohio Legislatures
Ohio Statehouse
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4275

Re: Property Tax Exemption: A Crucial Initiative for Ohio's Veterans

Dear Ohio State Legislatures,

My name is Jacob Drost, serving as the National Service Officer Supervisor and State Commander for Disabled American Veterans (DAV), we are advocating for the urgent passage of a 100 percent property tax exemption for permanent and totally disabled service-connected Veterans in Ohio. This initiative is critical for several reasons that directly impact both individual Veterans and the broader state economy.

As a premier Veterans Service Organization Disabled American Veterans brings a wealth of experience and understanding of the challenges faced by service-connected Veterans. This leadership underscores the importance of supporting those who have sacrificed for their country.

The compensation provided to 100 percent service-connected Veterans is not just a financial benefit to individuals; it acts as a stimulus to the local economy. These funds are spent on goods and services, thereby circulating money within the community. The property tax exemption amplifies this impact by allowing Veterans to allocate more resources towards local businesses, leading to increased economic growth and job creation.

Property tax exemption serves as a powerful incentive for Veterans to remain residents of Ohio. By reducing the financial burden on Veterans, the state fosters an environment that encourages them to stay. Retaining Veteran residency is crucial for Ohio to continue receiving federal funding earmarked for Veterans' services and support. A stable and engaged Veteran population ensures that federal resources are maximized and directed toward improving the lives of those who have served.

The proposed property tax exemption is not only about retaining current Veteran residents but also about attracting new ones. Ohio has the opportunity to become a magnet for Veterans seeking a supportive environment. By offering this tax exemption, the state can draw in Veterans from across the country, bringing their federal funding with them. This influx of Veterans contributes not only to the cultural diversity of Ohio but also to the state's revenue, bolstered by the additional federal funds allocated for Veteran services.

In conclusion, DAV's advocacy for a 100 percent property tax exemption for service-connected Veterans in Ohio is not just a matter of financial relief for individuals. It is a strategic move to stimulate the local economy, retain and attract Veterans, and enhance the state's overall fiscal health by maximizing federal funding. The passage of this exemption would solidify Ohio's

commitment to honoring and supporting its Veterans, positioning the state as a leader in caring for those who have served.

Very Respectfully,

Jacob T. Drost
Commander
DAV, Department of Ohio