

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, statement not yet issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Revenue by Prior Reference
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Boquist, Cowan, Schaufler, Scott, Barker
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Jim Keller, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	1/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Eliminates the annual filing requirement for the veteran homestead exemption if the exemption has been allowed in the previous year and the ownership, use, and other qualifying conditions remain unchanged. Continues the annual filing requirement if the basis for the exemption includes satisfying the maximum total gross income ceiling of not more than 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Applies to tax years beginning on or after July 1, 2008.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cost savings to veterans
- 37,000 veterans would qualify for the exemption
- Cost and time savings for the county assessor's office

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Under the current statutes, a veteran who is certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States as having disabilities of 40 percent or more is allowed a homestead exemption not to exceed \$15,000 of the assessed value. In order to qualify for this exemption, the veteran must file a claim on or before April 1st each year to the county assessor.

House Bill 2237 would remove the annual filing requirement except for those veterans who are also required to qualify based on the maximum total gross income ceiling.