

Submitter: dennis miller

On Behalf Of: Polk County VFW Post 3203 and American Legion 33

Committee: House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

Measure: HB4066

My name is Master Sergeant Dennis Miller, United States Marine Corps Retired. I served 1974 to 1997 which included the First Gulf War, Grenada, Somalia and many relief operations though out the world . I am also the past Post Commander of VFW Post 3203 (2005 to 2012) an member of American Legion Post 33, and a member of Disabled American Veterans. I am writing to support the Property tax forgiveness portion of this bill. As a 100% disabled veteran and Oregon homeowner this section impacts me and many like me personally. We have a large group of Veterans that have various degrees of Service Connected Disability, some lost limbs in combat, some are dealing with PTSD and other wounds received in the defense of there country and the State of Oregon. As our Vietnam era veterans age more and more of them are struggling to make it on just social security and VA disability pay. Not just would this have a financial benefit to our disabled Veterans, it would be a gesture to our Veterans that our elected officials actually care about our sacrifice Please join the 19 states that provide a 100% property tax exemption to Disabled Veterans based on their disability percentage. It is only just, that we as a state honor those that fought for our freedoms, many giving their lives, bodies, or minds and many sacrificing the welfare of their families. it would be a small token of our appreciation to provide for these Disabled Veterans.

As stated in Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address with regards to the soldier returning from war "To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan," President Lincoln affirmed the governments obligation to care for those injured during the war and to provide for the families of those who perished on the battle field.