

Submitter: Frederick French

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2050

I strongly support HB2050. If Oregon wants to retain veterans after retirement, the state must be competitive with other states in the tax benefits department, frankly, right now they aren't. This causes veterans to look elsewhere after retirement or simply not return if they are stationed somewhere else. If a veteran moves after retirement or never comes back, countless economy dollars are lost to another state in the form of spending that happens in another state vs in Oregon. A bill a couple of years ago was proposed and then partially shot down because "we don't know how much it would cost the state". Contrary to that ill informed statement, it's extremely easy to calculate accurately what it would cost because military retirement is a set pay scale just like any other governmental job. The last bill that passed was really just a slap in the face for veterans by not standing up and passing a substantial measure that actually helped out veterans and would have ultimately helped out the state.