

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
RAMADA HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER,
STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA
APRIL 26-27, 2025**

Resolution No. 1158

Submitted by: Dean Noechel
Legislative Chair

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- Whereas, Veterans with 100% permanent service-connected disability or unemployability, service-connected blindness, paraplegia, or loss of two or more limbs may apply for exemption from property taxes based on their financial need; and
- Whereas, Under the current Title 51 (Military Affairs) Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, every five years, the State Veterans' Commission (SVC) is required to review all "determinations of need" for property tax exemptions; and
- Whereas, This review allows the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) to verify that the qualifying family still resides at the property for which the credit was awarded and that their financial needs are still substantial; and
- Whereas, This review can place an unnecessary burden on families, as these veterans or their widows must also resubmit paperwork every five years to re-certify their need; and
- Whereas, On February 20, 2025, Pennsylvania House Representative Brian Munroe introduced HB 636, legislation to change the standards for this program to provide some relief for our most vulnerable Pennsylvanians, stating: *"the length of review that the State Veterans' Commission is required to conduct for disabled veterans' 'determination of need' for property tax exemptions will be extended from every five years to every 10 years. Extending the review period to 10 years would require the reviews to occur less often and therefore reduce the overall paperwork needed, while still maintaining the integrity of the program for the families who need it the most."*; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion Department of Pennsylvania Executive Committee, in a regular meeting assembled April 26-27, 2025 at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center in State College, Pennsylvania proclaims its support for legislation that would extend the length of review that the State Veterans' Commission is required to conduct for disabled veterans' "determination of need" for property tax exemptions from every five years to every 10 years; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all members of the Pennsylvania House and Senate committees on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, all members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, and the leadership of the member organizations of the Pennsylvania War Veterans Council and of the State Veterans Commission; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

APPROVED X REJECTED REFERRED CONSOLIDATED FILED