

Submitter: Richard Kimbell

On Behalf Of: Emerald Empire Chapter Military Officers Assn

Committee: Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

Measure: SB178

Good Morning. Chair Manning, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to express another view on this important legislation.

Having retired from service in 1987, I receive the benefit of the current tax legislation. I am here today however to express my son's view...Master Sergeant Laurens Kimbell, USMC. Over his career Larry has carried his Oregon drivers license to Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan and several points between. In two years he and his wife will retire from the Marine Corps and are making plans for his second career as a civilian. Oregon is NOT on his radar for the next phase of their lives. His wife has a master degree in library sciences and consults for the State of Georgia as a historical document and collections archivist. Larry has spent his military career as a logistics specialist for various commands. Currently both will be committing their talents and remaining working years to a community outside of Oregon. State tax on military retirement is a significant concern for them.

The key issue to me is not simply a senior citizen retiree issue, but one that attracts talented citizens to the local workforce and contributes to the fiscal health of the State. Oregon needs to resolve the tax issue in order to better compete for future talent in the workplace.

I urge the Committee's support for SB178.

Thank you for the opportunity to express this view.  
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