

Testimony in Support of SB 387

Chair Manning, Vice-Chairs Thatcher and Meek, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Representative Bobby Levy, and I proudly represent House District 58, which encompasses Umatilla, Union and Wallowa Counties. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 387.

SB 387 is a critical step forward in recognizing and supporting the sacrifices made by Oregon's disabled veterans and their families. By increasing property tax exemptions for disabled veterans and extending those exemptions to their surviving spouses, this bill offers much-needed financial relief and stability to those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

In rural areas like Eastern Oregon, many veterans face significant challenges, from limited access to healthcare to economic hardships. Raising property tax exemptions not only provides financial assistance but also helps ensure that veterans and their families can remain in their homes, fostering stronger, more stable communities.

I am particularly encouraged by the bill's inclusion of surviving spouses, who often bear the emotional and financial burdens of their loved one's service. This provision ensures that Oregon continues to honor the legacy of those who have served by supporting their families in meaningful ways.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important measure.

Sincerely,
Representative Bobby Levy