SENATE BILL 2213

Testimony before the North Dakota Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

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Mark Landis Burleigh County Veterans Service Officer

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Madame Chair, members of the committee, good morning. My name is Mark Landis. I have been the veterans service officer in Burleigh County for 17 years and currently serve as president of the Professional Veterans Advocates of North Dakota.

I am here to support Senate Bill 2213, which would provide an inflationary adjustment to the existing disabled veterans property tax credit. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony. I would also like to thank Senator Dever for bringing this bill forward.

The disabled veterans property tax exemption was established by an act of the North Dakota Legislature in 2007. Initially, the exemption was applied to the first \$5,400 of taxable valuation of residential property. In 2013, the legislature increased the exemption to apply to the first \$6,750 of taxable valuation, which equates to \$150,000 true and full value. In 2015, the legislature changed terminology from "exemption" to "credit."

If this bill is passed, the credit would be raised to \$11,250 of taxable valuation, or \$250,000 true and full value. In 2020, the average true and full value of a home in the City of Bismarck was \$260,600.

It has been eight years since an inflationary adjustment has been applied to the disabled veterans property tax credit. The numbers support an adjustment to the credit at this time.

I respectfully request you to vote "do pass" on this bill in order to align the dollar amounts with the current market and prevent erosion of this very popular program.

This concludes my prepared remarks. I will stand for your questions.