



**HB 2074 Proponent Testimony
Michael Kelly
Kansas Council of Chapters
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The Kansas Council of Chapters of MOAA supports passage of HB 2074. Kansas veterans seek property tax relief for veterans. HB 2074 will address this issue for certain low income service-connected veterans with a rating of 50% or greater, certain low income age 65+ veterans and some surviving spouses of veterans.

Kansas veterans met in September 2024 and conducted a legislative policy meeting. At that meeting the number one priority for this legislative session was agreed to be residential property tax relief via the Veterans Valor Property Tax Relief Act. That bill is HB 2005. This bill offers an alternative approach to HB 2005. Our organization appreciates the larger group of eligible individuals including not remarried surviving spouses of eligible service-connected veterans. However, the maximum claim is \$700 per year which is less than the annual maximum claim under HB 2005.

We offer a specific language changes and additions for clarity beginning on page 2 line 6: Change “veterans disability compensation” to “veterans compensation paid under Title 38 CFR § 3.4 or pension for veterans paid under Title 38 CFR § 3.3.” Also, add: “Income does not include Dependency and indemnity compensation paid to a not remarried surviving spouse under Title 38 CFR § 3.5.” “CFR” refers to the Code of Federal Regulations.

I urge the committee to pass this bill, HB 2005 or both bills. Service-connected veterans have already sacrificed far beyond most citizens of Kansas and deserve property tax relief in recognition of their sacrifice.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Kelly

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