

George Hanna

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Tecumseh, KS 66542

Ref: HB 1274

To Committee Chair,

My name is George Hanna and I am before you today in favor of HB 1274. I am a disabled veteran from the Navy Submarine Service. After sustaining an unrepairable injury I separated from the Navy with 10% service connected disability. Over the years I have contemplated trying to increase my percentage but have always felt I was treated fair and certainly much less disabled than many. In 2011 I was involved in a near fatal motorcycle accident in Manhattan, where another driver was texting and driving with no insurance. The injuries sustained that day required multiple rods and joint replacements in my hips, knees, ankle along with years in therapy to walk correctly again. I have been riding most of my life and those years were very difficult. In 2016 my wife bought me a Harley Davidson Trike so I could ride again. I was shocked and frankly insulted that I had to give up my veteran's license plate to make room for my disabled plate because I am unable to use a window placard. I am a proud vet and do not feel that the VA owes me anything additional than my benefits entitled to me. I am 100% disabled on Social Security. As a Veteran with a service connected disability AND permanently disabled driver, I find it difficult to accept that I have to choose between my patriotism or disability just because I ride a motorcycle. HB 1274 would enable those veterans that proudly display one of several service plates to be able to purchase (est. \$2.00) handicapped sticker to be displayed on the left side allowing for all related handicapped parking privileges

Respectfully,

George Hanna