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March 1, 2023

Senator Virgil Peck 300 SW 10th Street Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Senator Peck,

I am writing to you as a private citizen and a veteran advocate asking for you to support Senate Bill No. 58 Session 2023. This bill will relieve some of the tax burden on disabled Veterans who live on a fixed income. In addition, it will align Kansas closer to other states that have adopted similar measures. While Kansas does not rank in the top 15 places for military retirement, our neighbors to the south rank 12th due to their tax elimination policies. I personally know seven Veterans that have relocated to Oklahoma for this reason alone. Between income, property and vehicle tax elimination, the average net income increase directly to the Service Member is around \$10,000 per year. As of 2023, a disabled Veterans pension is \$10,000 greater per year than it was in 2006. As you can see a move to our southern neighbor is the same as the VA Cost of Living raises for 17 years. We are losing our Veteran population to other states. If I know of seven, how many more are there? I realize this bill is not the end-all, but it is a step in the right direction.

Regards,

Ryan York