

RONALD G. WATERS, MEMBER
191ST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

6027 LUDLOW STREET, UNIT A
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19139
PHONE: (215) 748-6712
FAX: (215) 748-1687

ROOM 328 K. LEROY IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING
P.O. BOX 202191
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2191
PHONE: (717) 772-9850
FAX: (717) 783-1516



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS
CHILDREN & YOUTH
HEALTH
JUDICIARY

PA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS,
CHAIRMAN

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the House of Representatives
FROM: Representative Ronald G. Waters
SUBJECT: Request for Co-Sponsorship
DATE: January 31, 2012

In the near future, I plan to introduce a constitutional amendment to provide property tax exemptions to any disabled veteran that has served in the armed forces of the United States.

Article VII 2(c) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provides disabled veterans an exemption from paying real property taxes for their residence if they served in a war or armed conflict that the United States was engaged in. My legislation would amend this section of the Constitution by removing the requirement that the individual must have served in a war or armed conflict and only require service in "the armed forces of the United States." The bill also provides the exemption to an unmarried, surviving spouse of a veteran killed during their service. Furthermore, the bill removes the requirement that the State Veterans' Commission make a determination whether the tax exemption is warranted or necessary.

By passing this legislation, we will be providing any 100% disabled veteran, who has sustained a disability from their service, the opportunity to receive the property tax exemption. I believe that it is imperative that we give all veterans, regardless of whether they served during war or peacetime, equal opportunities to this exemption, as they have all honorably served the United States.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this important legislation to continue to provide support to the veterans of this Commonwealth, please contact Nilda Jenkins at (717) 772-6955 or njenkins@pahouse.net.