

# HOUSE BILL No. 4139

February 1, 2017, Introduced by Reps. Chirkun, Robinson, Elder, Cochran, Peterson, Ellison, Hoadley, Yanez, Wittenberg, LaFave, Dianda, Faris, Lasinski, Gay-Dagnogo, Chang, Santana, Hertel, Sabo, Durhal, Howell, Brinks and Pagan and referred to the Committee on Tax Policy.

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled  
 "The general property tax act,"  
 by amending section 7b (MCL 211.7b), as amended by 2013 PA 161.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 7b. (1) Real property used and owned as a homestead by a  
 2 disabled veteran who was discharged from the armed forces of the  
 3 United States under honorable conditions or by an individual  
 4 described in subsection (2) is exempt from the collection of taxes  
 5 under this act. To obtain the exemption, **THE PROPERTY OWNER OR HIS**  
 6 **OR HER LEGAL DESIGNEE SHALL FILE** an affidavit showing the facts  
 7 required by this section and a description of the real property  
 8 ~~shall be filed by the property owner or his or her legal designee~~  
 9 with the supervisor or other assessing officer during the period  
 10 beginning with the tax day for each year and ending at the time of

1 the final adjournment of the local board of review. The affidavit  
2 when filed shall be open to inspection. The county treasurer shall  
3 cancel taxes subject to collection under this act for any year in  
4 which a disabled veteran eligible for the exemption under this  
5 section has acquired title to real property exempt under this  
6 section. Upon granting the exemption under this section, each local  
7 taxing unit shall bear the loss of its portion of the taxes upon  
8 which the exemption has been granted.

9 (2) If a disabled veteran who is otherwise eligible for the  
10 exemption under this section dies, either before or after the  
11 exemption under this section is granted, the exemption ~~shall remain~~  
12 **REMAINS** available to or ~~shall continue~~ **CONTINUES** for his or her  
13 unremarried surviving spouse. The surviving spouse shall comply  
14 with the requirements of subsection (1) and shall indicate on the  
15 affidavit that he or she is the surviving spouse of a disabled  
16 veteran entitled to the exemption under this section. The exemption  
17 ~~shall continue~~ **CONTINUES** as long as the surviving spouse remains  
18 unremarried.

19 (3) As used in this section, "disabled veteran" means a person  
20 who is a resident of this state and who meets 1 of the following  
21 criteria:

22 (a) Has been determined by the United States ~~department of~~  
23 ~~veterans affairs~~ **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS** to be ~~permanently~~  
24 ~~and~~ totally disabled as a result of military service and entitled  
25 to veterans' benefits at the 100% rate.

26 (b) Has a certificate from the United States ~~veterans'~~  
27 ~~administration, or its successors,~~ **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

1 certifying that he or she is receiving or has received pecuniary  
2 assistance due to disability for specially adapted housing.

3 (c) Has been rated by the United States ~~department of veterans~~  
4 ~~affairs~~ **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS** as individually  
5 unemployable.