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THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN 102nd ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION JULY 14-18, 2021 – MIDDLETON, WI

Resolution: <u>16.2021</u>

Subject: Support for Revising the Wisconsin Veteran and Surviving Spouses

Property Tax Credit to Provide for a Graduated Benefit

Submitted by: <u>Department Legislative Committee</u>

Referred to Convention Committee on Legislative

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Veterans AND Surviving Spouses Property Tax Credit provides veterans and unremarried surviving spouses a refundable property tax credit on their primary Wisconsin residence; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Wisconsin Legislative Committee reviewed the existing legislative resolutions at the Department Spring Meetings held in Baraboo, WI on May 7, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The definition of an eligible veteran found in § 71.07(6e) Wis. stats.as follows;

- A. A veteran who served on active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. armed forces or in forces incorporated in the U.S, armed forces
- B. A veteran who was a resident of Wisconsin at the time of entry into active service or had been a resident of Wisconsin for any 5-year period after entry into that service
- C. A veteran who is currently a resident of Wisconsin for purposes of receiving veterans benefits under Ch. 45 Wis. stats.
- D. A veteran has either a service-connected disability of 100% under 38 USC 1114 or 1134 or 100 percent disability rating based on individual unemployability; and

WHEREAS, The definition of an eligible unremarried surviving spouse is found in § 71.07(6e) Wis. stats.as follows;

- A. A unremarried surviving spouse of a veteran who had served on active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. armed forces or in forces incorporated in the U.S, armed forces and who was a resident of Wisconsin at the time of entry into active service or had been a resident of Wisconsin for any 5-year period after entry into that service and who while a resident of Wisconsin, died on active duty
- B. A unremarried spouse of a veteran who had either a service-connected disability of 100% under 38 USC 1114 or 1134 or 100 percent disability rating based on individual unemployability.
- C. A unremarried spouses of an individual who died in the line of duty while on active or inactive duty, while on active duty or inactive duty for training purposes as a member of the National Guard or a reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces and who was a resident of this state at the time of entry into that service or who had been

- a resident of Wisconsin for any consecutive 5-year period after entry into that service and who was a resident of this state at the time of death.
- D. A unremarried surviving spouses who began to receive or continues to receive Dependency and Indemnity Compensation from the Federal VA; and

WHEREAS, veteran eligibility is verified by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and the program is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue; and

WHEREAS, several states provide a similar benefit to veterans. Each state provides a program unique to its needs; now therefore Be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin in Department Convention assembled in Middleton, Wisconsin July 14-18, 2021, that The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin supports a revision to the Wisconsin Veterans and Surviving Spouse Statute to provide for a graduated property tax credit for Wisconsin disabled veterans and surviving spouses.

For Convention Committee Use

This is to certify that the above resolution was duly acted upon by the Department Convention	Approved X Rejected
held in Middleton, Wisconsin, July 2021.	Approved as amended
Signature	Consolidated
Chairman or Secretary	Rewritten
Of Convention Committee on	Refer to standing committee on
Legislative	Other action