

SB 228 Educational Talking Points

What is SB 228?

- SB 228 is a North Carolina bill focused on property tax relief for disabled veterans.
- The bill would tie property tax relief to a veteran's VA disability rating.
- Veterans with service-connected disabilities would receive an exclusion based on their disability percentage.
- The bill is currently in the Senate Rules Committee.

Why Was SB 228 Introduced?

- Service-connected disabilities affect veterans at many levels, not just those rated 100% disabled.
- Veterans with 30%, 50%, 70%, or 90% disability ratings often face significant physical, emotional, and financial challenges.
- The VA has already established a system for determining the severity of service-connected disabilities.
- SB 228 recognizes those disability ratings when determining property tax relief.

Why Does This Matter?

- Many disabled veterans live on fixed incomes.
- Property values have increased dramatically across North Carolina.
- As property values rise, property taxes often rise as well.
- Housing affordability and property taxes affect veterans just as they affect other North Carolinians.
- Veterans who sustained service-connected disabilities should not be overlooked simply because they are not rated 100% disabled.

What Does the Bill Do?

Examples:

- A veteran rated 50% disabled would receive a 50% exclusion.
- A veteran rated 70% disabled would receive a 70% exclusion.
- A veteran rated 100% disabled would receive a 100% exclusion.

The bill uses the disability ratings already determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

What Are We Asking For?

- We are asking lawmakers to allow the bill to move through the legislative process.
- We are asking for a hearing and consideration of the legislation.
- We believe disabled veterans deserve the opportunity to have their concerns heard.
- We are encouraging respectful discussion and thoughtful consideration of the proposal.

Common Questions

Isn't this a tax break?

Yes. The bill would provide property tax relief to disabled veterans based on their service-connected disability rating.

Why should veterans receive this benefit?

The disability ratings are directly tied to injuries, illnesses, and conditions connected to military service.

Doesn't North Carolina already have a disabled veteran exemption?

North Carolina currently provides property tax relief for certain disabled veterans. SB 228 would change how that relief is calculated by connecting it to the veteran's VA disability rating.

How Can People Help?

- Contact their state senator.
- Contact Senate leadership and members of the Senate Rules Committee.
- Write a Letter to the Editor.
- Share information with veterans organizations, civic groups, churches, and community organizations.
- Encourage respectful discussion about the challenges facing disabled veterans.

Closing Message

North Carolina's disabled veterans answered the call to serve our nation. SB 228 seeks to recognize service-connected disabilities through a property tax system that reflects the disability ratings already established by the VA. Regardless of where someone stands on the bill itself, disabled veterans deserve the opportunity to have their proposal heard, discussed, and considered by their elected representatives.