

SB 658 (Grove) Property Tax Exemption: Disabled Veterans

POSITION: The Chamber's Defense, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee voted to SUPPORT the bill on April 7, 2021. The Policy Committee voted to SUPPORT on May 11, 2021. The Board of Directors voted to SUPPORT on May 27, 2021.

RATIONALE: SB 658 would expand tax relief for disabled veterans with a VA rating less than 100%.

STATUS: Passed Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs on April 28, 2021, currently held under submission in Committee on Appropriations.

SUMMARY

Current law permits reductions on property taxes for veterans that are 100% disabled as a result of a service-connected disability, or who are compensated at 100% due to unemployability. SB 658 would permit disabled veterans to receive a property tax reduction proportionate to their disability rating by the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

INDUSTRY/IES IMPACTED

No direct industry impact.

SUPPORTERS

- San Bernardino County Assessor's Office (Sponsor)
- California Assessors' Association

OPPONENTS

- None known

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR

- SB 658 would provide needed economic relief for disabled veterans who are unable to receive a 100% disability rating. Only a small proportion of disabled veterans are able to be granted a 100% disability rating, rendering many disabled veterans ineligible for benefits.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

- Extending property tax exemptions can reduce property tax revenue received by local governments. Fiscal impacts may vary depending on local budgets and proportion of the population eligible for tax exemptions.