



Jewish War Veterans of the USA
Department of Michigan
A Jewish Voice for Veterans, a Veteran's Voice for Jews
www.jwv-mi.org

February 8, 2022

Representative Beau LaFave
S-1487 House Office Building
Lansing, MI 48909

Representative LaFave,

The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. is the oldest active veterans' service organization in the country. The Department of Michigan protects the rights of Jewish veterans and their families throughout Michigan. We are members of the Commanders Group of Congressionally Chartered Veterans Organizations in Michigan.

We strenuously object to the provisions of HB4908 and its substitute which has only within the last 24 hours been made public on the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee website. The bill should be returned to the appropriate staff for further development keeping in mind the needs of the various stakeholders impacted by its provisions.

- Late posting has prevented public comment in advance of committee hearings and is well short of the ideas of transparency citizens rightfully expect of the legislature.
- The provisions of the original version of the bill and its substitute target specific veterans' organizations and the veterans they support without regard to the benefits and services they provide.
- The substitute bill directs proceeds previously available to veterans' organization fund revenue shortfalls created by other actions of the legislature without regard to the relationship of the beneficiary to the veteran's organization which is newly taxed.

There is no reason to rush this legislation without proper discourse, and we strongly urge you to direct the clerk of the committee to withdraw this item from today's agenda until thorough review and public comment involving all stakeholders are accomplished.

Sincerely,

EH Hirsch
Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)
Commander
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