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HEARING DATE: February 14, 2024

BILL: SB0639

TITLE: Property Tax Exemption - Disabled Veterans - Service Connected Disability

SDAT POSITION: SUPPORT

The Department of Assessments and Taxation supports Senate Bill 639 - Property Tax Exemption - Disabled Veterans - Service Connected Disability. This legislation would allow veterans with at least an 80% service-connected disability to qualify for a property tax exemption.

The property tax exemption for disabled veterans was established by the General Assembly in part to offset the costs of medical bills, ongoing care, and management of disabilities for individuals who have served in the armed forces. Currently, the exemption is only available to veterans who have been deemed by the Veterans' Administration as having a 100% service-connected disability.

Senate Bill 639 would lower this threshold to 80%, allowing a larger pool of veterans who suffer from disabilities due to trauma or injury sustained in the line of duty to qualify for a property tax exemption.

Accordingly, the Department respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 639.