



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 2023

Exempting 100% Disabled veterans from Arkansas Sales tax at The Point of Sale.

The Arkansas Veterans Coalition membership voted unanimously to support a state law exempting 100% Arkansas Disabled Veterans from Sales tax at the Point of Sale. This law would exempt 100% disabled Veterans from sales tax on purchases of ALL goods and services at the point of sale.

AVC Vice President, R.D. Kinsey said, "This is the least we can do as Arkansans and Americans, to thank those men and women who have sacrificed their health and quality of life for the remainder of their lives in defense of our country."

AVC Member John Posey of the Ft. Smith's Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Chapter noted, "Arkansas would not be the first state to enact such a law. In 2006, the state of Oklahoma passed a sales tax exemption law in where the Oklahoma Tax Commission issues the 100% disabled veteran a card good for up to \$20,000 per year in sales tax exemption. And they recently amended this law to extend this benefit to the surviving spouses and allow spouses to make tax-exempt purchases for these mobility-challenged veterans."

AVC Member Mark Diggs said, "Based upon the information from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, there are a little over 10,000 100% disabled veterans in Arkansas. With a \$1.2 Billion state surplus, Arkansas can afford to provide this benefit to those who have sacrificed so much." Kinsey added, "We are asking for Arkansas disabled veterans to receive at least has the same benefits as veterans in Oklahoma. Businesses in the border communities like the Ft Smith area and Northwest Arkansas are probably losing sale of goods and services to Oklahoma communities just across the state line."

Posey added, "In the 2021 General Assembly, State Representative Cindy Crawford (Dist 76) drafted a Bill and was prepared to present it in committee for possible consideration on the House floor but was not introduced. Informed of AVC's unanimous support, Representative Crawford stated she plans on introducing her bill at the next Legislative Session."

The Arkansas State Veterans Coalition ("AVC") The Coalition is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization comprised of Arkansas affiliates of nationally chartered/recognized veterans, military, uniformed services, and veterans service organizations, as well as similar local not-for-profit organizations with common goals. They work in joint pursuit to represent issues affecting all generations of Arkansas Veterans.

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