

Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation  
HB 2036  
Neutral Testimony – written only  
Ganon Evans, Policy Analyst  
January 11, 2024



Chair Tyson and members of the committee:

Please accept this neutral, written testimony on HB 2036, a bill that creates a property tax exemption for retired and disabled veterans.

We want to first off acknowledge the countless sacrifices of our country's veterans. They deserve good treatment from the hometowns that they volunteered to protect through their service.

That said, our fundamental concern about HB 2036 is about burden shifting. Unless tax relief is provided to everyone in a community, a narrow exemption like HB 2036 merely shifts the tax burden from one group onto others. Exempting veterans from paying property taxes means that local communities may tax other residents higher to stay at the same revenue. Other vulnerable groups such as senior citizens, single parents, or college students working their way through school may see their taxes go up to pay for someone else's relief.

Also, the state has a long list of sales tax exemptions that has developed over time, and exempting one group from property tax could lead to similar requests for others.

We appreciate this opportunity to submit testimony and thank you for your consideration.

[WWW.KANSASPOLICY.ORG](http://WWW.KANSASPOLICY.ORG) | [WWW.KANSASOPENGOV.ORG](http://WWW.KANSASOPENGOV.ORG)

WICHITA OFFICE: 250 N. WATER, SUITE 216 | WICHITA, KANSAS 67202 | P 316-634-0218  
OVERLAND PARK OFFICE: 12980 METCALF, SUITE 430 | OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS 66213 | P 913-213-5038