



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

Daniel J. McKee **Governor**
Kasim J. Yarn **Director**

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Stephen M. Casey
Chair, House Municipal Government and Housing Committee
State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: 5307 - AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION -- PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION
(Authorizes the Providence city council to set the veterans tax exemption limit to an amount determined by the city council via ordinance or resolution.)**

Dear Chair Casey:

Please accept this letter for the record to reflect the Office of Veterans Services' support for H5307, scheduled for a hearing on March 4, 2025. If passed, the bill would authorize the Providence City Council to set a Veterans tax exemption limit to an amount determined by the Council through ordinance or resolution.

This bill, sponsored by Representative DeSimone, is a priority of the city administration and the City Council's Veterans Affairs Committee, of which I am a member. Providence is home to more than 2,800 veterans who have sacrificed and served our nation honorably. Currently, a Providence Veteran can receive a maximum of \$153 in the form of a property tax exemption. This amount is considerably low and the adjustment has not been increased in more than 26 years. H5307 will allow Providence to adjust its Veterans tax exemption based upon needs.

I thank you for your partnership and consideration of this letter, and I urge the Committee to support H5307.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. J. Yarn", is written over the "Sincerely," text.

Kasim J. Yarn
Director of Veterans Services

CC: The Honorable Members of the House Municipal Government and Housing Committee
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel for the Speaker of the House
Lynne Urbani, Director of House Policy