<u>HB2036</u> (Written Only) William J. Douglass El Dorado, KS.

I am a veteran of the US Army and served 18 months during the Vietnam war from Feb 1967 to Oct 1968 with an honorable discharge and received 3 Purple Hearts. Many who came home were not as lucky as I was, coming home with both arms and legs. Many had injuries that you could not see, but are living with them for many years. I only sustained progressive hearing damage (which the VA chooses not to recognize). These veterans desire the recognition of their injuries, many of which restrict their ability to earn a living high enough to own their own home.

To receive a property tax exemption would be the State's way of recognizing those veteran's service to our Country and their injuries, which would enable them to purchase a home and afford the taxes a property owner usually incurs. This exemption should also carry forward to the surviving spouse. He/she most often is/was a caregiver for the disabled veteran and deserves the exemption.

Please, I ask you, vote in favor of House Bill #2036.

Sincerely, William J Douglass