

## Rauner Signs Bill Expanding Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans

On Sunday, Aug. 16, Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner signed Senate Bill 107, which expands the current Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemptions in Illinois.

Beginning in taxable year 2015, which is for the tax bill that is payable in year 2016, veterans with a service-connected disability rating of at least 30 percent can qualify for this exemption at the following levels:

- Veterans with a VA service-connected disability rating of 30 percent or 40 percent can receive an exemption that takes \$2,500 off of their primary dwelling's equalized assessed value.
- Veterans with a VA service-connected disability rating of 50 percent or 60 percent can receive an exemption that takes \$5,000 off of their primary dwelling's EAV.
- Veterans with a VA service-connected disability rating of 70 percent or greater can receive an exemption that makes all of their primary dwelling's EAV exempt from property taxation.

The amount of the tax savings will depend on each property's tax rate. For instance, a qualifying disabled veteran with a VA disability rating of 30 percent would qualify for a \$2,500 exemption; at an estimated 7.5 percent tax rate, this would result in \$187.50 of property tax savings annually — and this tax savings never needs to be repaid.

To be eligible, the property must be the principal residence of the disabled veteran that is not used for commercial purposes, with an equalized assessed value of less than \$250,000, and you must apply through the Jersey County Assessment Office with a form that will be available on October 1, 2015.

In addition to the form, you will need to attach a current letter from the VA certifying your percentage of disability, if you are applying for the first time or if the percentage of disability has changed.

For more detailed information on eligibility, please see [Public Act 099-0375](#).