SENATE AMENDMENT NO. ___

Offered by ______________________________ **Of** ____

Amend SS/SCS/HCS/House **Bill Nos.** 3231 & 2531, **Page** 73, **Section** 99.980, **Line** 161,

by inserting after all of said line the following:

"137.1053. 1. The section shall be known and may be cited as the "Missouri Disabled Veteran Homestead Tax Credit Act".

2. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "County", any county or city not within a county in this state;

(2) "Disability rating", the percentage of disability assigned to a disabled veteran by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, reflecting the degree to which the veteran's disability impacts his or her ability to work and perform daily activities;

(3) "Disabled veteran", a Missouri resident who has been separated under honorable conditions from active service in any branch or reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard of a state as defined in 32 U.S.C. Section 101, as amended, and has a service-connected disability and has received a disability rating of one hundred percent permanent and total as certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs;

(4) "Eligible owner", an individual who is a disabled veteran, is the owner of record of the qualified residence or has a legal or equitable interest in a qualified

residence as evidenced by a written instrument, and is liable for the payment of real property taxes on the qualified residence;

(5) "Homestead", the residential real property that is used as a primary residence and the adjacent real property as is reasonably necessary for use of the residence as a home dwelling;

(6) "Primary residence", the real property owned and occupied by an eligible owner as the principal place of residence, and not to exceed five acres of land surrounding it as is reasonably necessary for use of the dwelling as a home;

(7) "Qualified amount", for any eligible owner in a given tax year, the total amount of real property taxes levied and imposed on the qualified residence and shall include all ad valorem taxes levied on the qualified residence by any county or other political subdivision including, but not limited to, county levies, municipal levies, school district levies including bonded indebtedness levies, fire protection district levies, library district levies, and any other local ad valorem levy authorized by law, but shall exclude the levy imposed for the state blind pension fund;

(8) "Qualified residence", the homestead of an eligible owner that has a market value not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars, but less any portion of that property that is used for commercial purposes. If the property, or a portion of the property, is rented out to another person for more than six months, it is presumed to be used for commercial purposes. No more than one property per qualified owner per tax year shall be claimed as a qualified residence under this section;

(9) "Real property tax credit", a credit against an eligible owner's liability for tax on the qualified residence that is levied and imposed by the governing body of a county or other political subdivision of this state with the power to levy and impose taxes on real property in this state.

3. (1) As allowed by the authority granted under Article X, Section 6(a) of the Constitution of Missouri, for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2027, a county may grant an annual real property tax credit, as calculated in this subsection, for the qualified residence of an eligible owner if such county adopts an order, ordinance, or resolution authorizing such real property tax credit in such county.

(2) The amount of a real property tax credit provided under this section shall be equal to the qualified amount of real property taxes levied and imposed on the eligible owner's qualified residence for such tax year, excluding the levy for the state blind pension fund.

(3) If the total market value of the dwelling and surrounding acreage does not exceed five hundred thousand dollars, ownership of additional acreage shall not disqualify an owner from eligibility under the provisions of this section.

4. The real property tax credit under this section carries over to the benefit of the eligible owner's surviving spouse as long as the spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the qualified residence, permanently resides therein, and does not remarry. No real property tax credit shall be allowed for the tax year in which the surviving spouse remarries, no longer holds legal or beneficial title, or relocates to a different primary residence.

5. Real property tax credits issued under the provisions of this section shall not be refundable. No real property tax credit claimed under this section shall be carried forward to any subsequent tax year. The real property tax credit allowed under this section shall not be transferred, assigned, sold, or otherwise conveyed, except as provided under this section.

6. Real property tax credits authorized under the provisions of this section shall not reduce assessed valuation and shall not be construed as an exemption from real property taxes. The security for any bonded indebtedness based on assessed valuation shall remain intact.

7. An eligible owner who receives a real property tax credit granted under this section shall not be eligible for any other real property tax relief, the property tax credits under sections 135.010 to 135.035, or any other tax credits relating to the eligible owner's qualified residence under this chapter or chapter 135.

8. Participation in the program under this section is optional as follows:

(1) Any county may, by a majority affirmative vote of the governing body of such county, opt in to the provisions of this section for the next year of the general reassessment, prior to January first of any year;

(2) If the county opts in to the provisions of this section, participation in this program for an eligible owner is also optional. An eligible owner electing to participate in the provisions under this section may opt in by notifying the local collector's office or other entity of such election to request a real property tax credit; and

(3) The governing body of the county may, by a majority affirmative vote, opt to rescind and cease the real property tax credit program authorized under this section

and previously adopted by the governing body, for the next year of the general reassessment, prior to January first of any year. Any rescission shall be prospective only and shall affect real property tax credits previously applied.

9. The governing body of the county may adopt reasonable procedures and promulgate ordinances, rules, and regulations in order to implement and administer the provisions of this section.

10. The assessor's office, collector's office, or other entity designated by rule, regulation, or ordinance shall administer the real property tax credit allowed under this section in the same manner as the tax credit authorized under section 137.1050 and shall be subject to similar application, verification, and renewal procedures as adopted by such county, if applicable. Eligibility determinations shall be made in accordance with guidelines established by this section and any additional local rules or regulations.

11. For the purposes of calculating property tax levies under section 137.073, and for all other laws prescribing the distribution or allocation of property tax revenues, the total amount of real property tax credits authorized under this section shall be considered tax revenue actually received by the county or other political subdivision.

12. A real property tax credit granted under this section shall not affect the process of setting the tax rate as required under Article X, Section 22 of the Constitution of Missouri and section 137.073 in any prior, current, or subsequent tax year.

13. Nothing in this section shall impair the obligation of any contract, reduce or restrict the taxing authority of any political subdivision, or alter the

calculation of assessed valuation for the purposes of bonded indebtedness."; and

Further amend the title and enacting clause accordingly.