



State Representative *to the* 50th Legislative District

Pam
SNYDER



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VETERANS REPORT

Honored to represent – and serve – the 50th Legislative District!

Snyder bill would expand number of disabled veterans eligible for real estate tax reduction

Rep. Snyder has introduced H.B. 878, which would expand the number of disabled veterans in the state who are eligible to receive real estate tax reductions.

Currently, the Disabled Veterans' Real Estate Tax Exemption Program exempts veterans who are classified as 100 percent disabled by the U.S. Veterans Administration from paying real estate taxes on their primary home, provided they meet other program requirements.

However, those veterans who are 90 percent disabled get no exemption whatsoever. Rep. Snyder believes this anomaly must be rectified.

Her bill seeks to provide some relief for veterans who do not have a 100 percent rating but are nonetheless impaired in their ability to earn a living and thus deserving of property tax relief.

Further, H.B. 878 proposes matching the level of relief to the disability percentage as determined by the VA. For example, if a veteran is categorized as 50 percent disabled, he or she would be entitled to a 50 percent reduction in real estate tax owed.

The Real Estate Tax Exemption Program is an excellent way to show appreciation to disabled veterans while assisting them to enjoy a normal life. However, Rep. Snyder wants to assist all disabled veterans by expanding the program's eligibility criteria.

Snyder hosts monthly veterans outreach at Carmichaels office

American Legion specialists available 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. fourth Thursday of every month

Rep. Snyder offers a veterans outreach featuring American Legion service specialists on the fourth Thursday of every month at her constituent service office at 104 S. Market St., Carmichaels.

The monthly outreach for veterans and their families is available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Legion membership is not required to access the services.

No registration is required — veterans and their families can just walk right in and a legion representative will assist them with any issues pertaining to veterans' benefits.



The specialist is able to:

- Explain what benefits a veteran has earned;
- Counsel on how best to use those benefits;
- Assist with applying for benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs;
- Help to file appeals to existing claims; and
- Assist with enrolling eligible individuals into the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system.

Rep. Snyder's staff is well-versed on helping veterans and their families with benefits and programs available through the state Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. However, full access to federal benefits is the aim of this special outreach.

Interested residents with questions may call Rep. Snyder's Carmichaels office at 724-966-8953.

Snyder awards medals to Korean War veteran from Allison

Ending a 60-year wait, Rep. Snyder presented five long-overdue military service medals to Korean War veteran Harry Sumner of Allison, Fayette County, earlier this year.

After his documentation was destroyed in a fire in the 1970s, Sumner waited over six decades to receive his military service awards for serving his country from 1947 through 1956.

The retired Army medic finally got his medals for Korean War Service, National Defense Service, United Nations Service, Army Occupation, and Good Conduct in the Army.

With a wait that long, Rep. Snyder was more than happy to travel to Sumner's home to make the presentation.



Snyder bill naming bridge after KIA Vietnam veteran signed into law



After unanimously passing the House, Rep. Snyder's H.B. 952 naming a bridge after a Greene County veteran was signed into law. It designates a bridge on State Route 1011, also known as Castile Run Road, over the South Fork Tenmile Creek between Jefferson Township and Clarksville Borough,

Greene County, as the PFC Brent A. McClellan Memorial Bridge.

A Clarksville native and graduate of Jefferson-Morgan High School, McClellan was drafted into the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was assigned as an infantryman to the 1st Platoon, B Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division.

“Army Private Brent McClellan gave his life on behalf of his country more than 51 years ago, and this tribute is long overdue.”

– Rep. Snyder

On Feb. 28, 1966, at 21 years of age, McClellan was killed in an ambush by hostile forces in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam, approximately 20 miles north of Saigon. His awards include the Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

McClellan was born March 18, 1944, the son of the late George McClellan Jr. and Rowena Wise McClellan. Before heading overseas in late 1965, he served in the honor guard at the grave of President John F. Kennedy.

State offers number of veterans' programs

There are a number of veterans' programs available through the state Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

The Military Family Relief and Assistance Program provides financial assistance in the form of grants to eligible service members and their families who have a direct and immediate financial need as a result of circumstances beyond their control. The amount of a grant is based on documented need, up to a maximum of \$3,500.

A program beneficial to wounded veterans is the Amputee and Paralyzed Veterans Pension program. This program is specifically designed to provide eligible amputee and paralyzed veterans a pension of \$150 per month.

Also available to veterans and their families is the Educational Gratuity Program, which provides financial assistance to children of honorably discharged veterans who have service-connected disabilities and served during a period of war or armed conflict. Children of veterans who died in service during a period of war or armed conflict also are eligible.

These are only a few of the many state programs available to veterans. To find out if you're eligible or to learn more, visit <https://www.dmva.pa.gov/veteransaffairs> or contact Rep. Snyder's office at 724-966-8953.

Snyder holds Veterans Breakfast, focus on Vietnam vets



In observance of Vietnam War Veterans Day, Rep. Pam Snyder hosted a free breakfast for veterans and their families at the Carmichaels American Legion Post 400 in late March.

A special emphasis was made to include those who served in the Vietnam era, as a way to show appreciation to all of those who've defended our nation, and the families that have supported them.

The meal was prepared by the post's Ladies Auxiliary, and Snyder and her staff were on hand to deal with state-related issues. The Greene County Veterans Affairs Office also sent a representative to answer Veterans Administration-related questions.





112 Irvis Office Building
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Harrisburg, PA 17120-2050
Rep. Pam Snyder

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lpo.jc.0818

Get a free 'veteran' designation on your driver's license

More than 500,000 Pennsylvania veterans have opted for the veteran designation on their PA driver's license or photo identification since the program's inception in 2014. The designation — an American flag with the word VETERAN beneath it — is a patriotic way for veterans to show their pride and let others know that they served in the U.S. military.

Please be aware that the veteran designation does not provide the license holder with any special privileges or discounts.

To qualify, you must have served in the U.S. Armed Forces and/or the reserve component and have been discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable.

There is no fee for the veteran designation, but regular license renewal fees still apply. Forms for driver's license or ID renewals and duplicates have a box for you to

certify that you are a veteran. Once the designation has been added to your driver's license or identification card, it will automatically appear each time it is renewed.

For more information, please call Rep. Snyder's office at 724-966-8953 or visit the Department of Transportation's website at: <https://bit.ly/2vk4N51>.



Snyder's office can help you with:

- Free notary service
- Car registrations, special tags, disability placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Assistance in obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
- Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Complaints or questions about utilities and the Public Utility Commission
- Birth and death certificates
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
- Problems or questions about the state lottery
- PACE cards for senior citizens
- Consumer complaints
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups



Sign up for email updates

Sign up to receive email alerts about Rep. Snyder's legislative activities in Harrisburg and state-related issues that affect your life. Visit her website at www.pahouse.com/ Snyder, click "CONTACT" and then "Sign up for emails" and fill out the form.