

To: All Legislators

From: Senator Jeff Smith

Representative Christian Phelps

Date: Tuesday, April 29, 2025

RE: Co-Sponsorship of LRB-2781/1: Allowing Veterans and Surviving Spouses to Claim the Property Tax Credit Alongside the Farmland Preservation Tax Credit

Co-Sponsorship Deadline: *Thursday, May 8th, 2025 at 12:00 PM*

Dear Colleagues,

We are seeking your co-sponsorship of **LRB-2781/1**, a bill that will eliminate an unnecessary restriction currently preventing eligible veterans and surviving spouses from claiming both the veterans and surviving spouses property tax credit and the farmland preservation tax credit in the same taxable year.

Under current law, individuals must choose between these two important tax credits. This creates an unfair disadvantage for veterans or surviving spouses who also operate agricultural land under a farmland preservation agreement. Wisconsin should not force those who have served our country—or their families—to choose between supporting their livelihood and receiving a benefit they have rightfully earned.

LRB-2781/1 will amend Section 71.07 (6e) (c) 2. of the statutes to allow simultaneous claims of both tax credits for the same taxable year, beginning in tax year 2025.

This is a common-sense update that supports two important groups in our state: our veterans and our farmers. We believe strongly that this change aligns with Wisconsin's commitment to both.

If you would like to co-sponsor this bill, please reply to this email or contact the office of Sen. Smith or Rep. Phelps no later than **Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 12:00 PM.**

Thank you for your consideration.