

# ANNUAL AFFIDAVIT FOR DISABLED VETERANS

Pursuant to PA 161 of 2013, to be filed with the Assessing Officer between January 1 and close of the Board of Review.

STATE OF MICHIGAN ) YEAR 20\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF KALAMAZOO )

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being duly sworn, am a disabled veteran or un-remarried surviving spouse of a veteran who was discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States under honorable conditions. I have provided proof of said disability in the form of a certificate from the United States Veteran's Administration, or its successor, certifying the soldier or sailor is permanently and totally disabled at the rate of 100%, and /or has a certificate from the VA certifying that I have received pecuniary assistance under the Specially Adapted Housing Grant Program, and/or am rated by the VA as Individually Unemployable.

I further claim to own and occupy as my primary residence, in the Charter Township of Oshtemo, County of Kalamazoo and State of Michigan as follows:

Property Identification Number: 3905-\_\_\_\_\_

Property address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Principle Residence was acquired: \_\_\_\_\_

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 Check if you are a qualified veteran

Check if you are the un-remarried, surviving spouse

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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Sworn and subscribed before me \_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

Print Name of Notary \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public of Kalamazoo County, State of Michigan

My Commission expires \_\_\_\_\_



## HOME LOAN GUARANTY

## SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING PROGRAM



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has three main grant programs to assist disabled Veterans and Servicemembers with necessary home modifications.

### WHAT IS A SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING (SAH) GRANT?

The SAH grant is designed to help disabled Veterans by providing a barrier-free living environment, such as a wheelchair accessible home, that affords Veterans a level of independent living they may not otherwise enjoy. Veterans and Servicemembers with specific service-connected disabilities may be entitled to a grant for the purpose of constructing or modifying a home to meet their adaptive needs, up to the current maximum of \$64,960.

The SAH grant is available to Veterans and Servicemembers who are entitled to disability compensation for permanent and total disability due to:

- Loss or loss of use of both lower extremities, such as to preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes, or a wheelchair, or
- Blindness in both eyes, plus loss or loss of use of one lower extremity, or
- Loss or loss of use of one lower extremity together with (1) residuals of organic disease or injury, or (2) the loss or loss of use of one upper extremity, affecting balance or propulsion as to preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes, or a wheelchair or,
- Loss or loss of use of both upper extremities at or above the elbows, or
- A severe burn injury.

### WHAT IS A SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION (SHA) GRANT?

The SHA grant can be used to increase the mobility of eligible Veteran and Servicemembers throughout their residences. Veterans and Servicemembers with specific service-connected disabilities may be entitled to this type of grant, up to the current maximum of \$12,992.

The SHA grant is available to Veterans and Servicemembers who are entitled to disability compensation for permanent and total disability due to:

- Blindness in both eyes with 5/200 visual acuity or less or,
- The anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands or extremities below the elbow, or
- A severe burn injury.



Disabilities determined by VA to be related to your military service can lead to monthly non-taxable compensation, enrollment in the VA health care system, a 10-point hiring preference for federal employment and other important benefits. Ask your VA representative or Veterans Service Organization representative about Disability Compensation, Pension, Health Care, Caregiver Program, Career Services, Educational Assistance, Home Loan Guaranty, Insurance and/or Dependents and Survivors' Benefits



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## WHAT IS A TEMPORARY RESIDENCE ASSISTANCE (TRA) GRANT?

A temporary grant may be available to SAH/SHA eligible Veterans and Servicemembers who are or will be temporarily residing in a home owned by a family member. The maximum amount available to adapt a family member's home for the SAH grant is \$28,518 and for the SHA grant is \$5,092.

## WHAT IS A HOME IMPROVEMENTS AND STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS (HISA) GRANT?

Veterans and Servicemembers may receive assistance for any home improvement necessary for the continuation of treatment or for disability access to the home and essential lavatory and sanitary facilities. A Veteran may receive a HISA grant in conjunction with either a SAH or SHA grant. The HISA program is available for both Veterans with service-connected disabilities and Veterans with non-service-connected disabilities.

- Home improvement benefits up to \$6,800 may be provided to Veterans with service-connected disabilities.
- Home improvement benefits up to \$2,000 may be provided to Veterans with non-service-connected disabilities.

Please visit <http://www.prosthetics.va.gov/HISA2.asp> to learn more about HISA grants.

## HOW CAN YOU APPLY?

You can apply for the SAH and SHA grant by completing VA Form 26-4555, *Veterans Application in Acquiring Specially Adapted Housing or Special Home Adaptation Grant*, and submitting it to your local VA Regional Loan Center. You may also apply online; please visit the Veteran's portal at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/> to register and submit an application for Specially Adapted Housing benefits.

Please visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/sah.asp> to learn more about SAH grants.

For more information, call toll-free 1-800-827-1000 or visit our web site at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans>.

Contact us: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) 1-800-827-1000



October 2012



## DISABILITY COMPENSATION

### INDIVIDUAL UNEMPLOYABILITY FACT SHEET

## WHAT IS INDIVIDUAL UNEMPLOYABILITY?

Individual Unemployability (IU) is a part of VA's disability compensation program that allows VA to pay certain Veterans compensation at the 100% rate, even though VA has not rated their service-connected disabilities at the 100% level.

## WHAT IS THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR INDIVIDUAL UNEMPLOYABILITY?

A Veteran must be unable to maintain substantially gainful employment as a result of his/her service-connected disabilities. Additionally, a Veteran must have:

- One service-connected disability ratable at **60** percent or more, *OR*
- Two or more service-connected disabilities, at least one disability ratable at **40** percent or more with a combined rating of **70** percent or more.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

- Submit VA Form 21-8940, *Veteran's Application for Increased Compensation Based on Unemployability*.
- Send your completed application to your nearest VA regional office. To find the closest regional office to you, go to <http://www1.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp?isFlash=1> or call 1-800-827-1000.

## CAN I WORK?

Veterans who are in receipt of Individual Unemployability benefits may work as long as it is not considered substantially gainful employment. The employment must be considered marginal employment.



Disabilities determined by VA to be related to your military service can lead to monthly non-taxable compensation, enrollment in the VA health care system, a 10-point hiring preference for federal employment and other important benefits. Ask your VA representative or Veterans Service Organization representative about Disability Compensation, Pension, Health Care, Caregiver Program, Career Services, Educational Assistance, Home Loan Guaranty, Insurance and/or Dependents and Survivors' Benefits.



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- Substantially gainful employment is defined as employment at which non-disabled individuals earn their livelihood with earnings comparable to the particular occupation in the community where the Veteran resides.
- Marginal employment is generally deemed to exist when a Veteran's earned income does not exceed the amount established by the U.S. Census Bureau as the poverty level for the Veteran only. For more information on the U.S. Census Bureau's poverty thresholds, see <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/threshld/index.html>

### **WHAT IF I DON'T MEET THE PERCENTAGE CRITERIA?**

Special consideration will be given for Veterans when the following criteria is met:

- The Veteran is considered unemployable due to a service-connected disability(ies) but fails to meet the minimum percentage standards, OR
- There is evidence of exceptional or unusual circumstances to impairment of earning capacity due to disabilities (for example, interference with employment or frequent periods of hospitalization)

**Note:** Veterans may have to complete an employment questionnaire once a year in order for VA to determine continued eligibility to Individual Unemployability.

For More Information, Call Toll-Free 1-800-827-1000 or Visit Our Web Site at <http://www.va.gov>



**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
97TH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013**

Introduced by Senators Hildenbrand, Emmons, Brandenburg, Proos, Green, Rocca, Pappageorge, Jones,  
Colbeck, Nofs and Marleau

# ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 352

AN ACT to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled "An act to provide for the assessment of rights and interests, including leasehold interests, in property and the levy and collection of taxes on property, and for the collection of taxes levied; making those taxes a lien on the property taxed, establishing and continuing the lien, providing for the sale or forfeiture and conveyance of property delinquent for taxes, and for the inspection and disposition of lands bid off to the state and not redeemed or purchased; to provide for the establishment of a delinquent tax revolving fund and the borrowing of money by counties and the issuance of notes; to define and limit the jurisdiction of the courts in proceedings in connection with property delinquent for taxes; to limit the time within which actions may be brought; to prescribe certain limitations with respect to rates of taxation; to prescribe certain powers and duties of certain officers, departments, agencies, and political subdivisions of this state; to provide for certain reimbursements of certain expenses incurred by units of local government; to provide penalties for the violation of this act; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending section 7b (MCL 211.7b).

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

Sec. 7b. (1) Real property used and owned as a homestead by a disabled veteran who was discharged from the armed forces of the United States under honorable conditions or by an individual described in subsection (2) is exempt from the collection of taxes under this act. To obtain the exemption, an affidavit showing the facts required by this section and a description of the real property shall be filed by the property owner or his or her legal designee with the supervisor or other assessing officer during the period beginning with the tax day for each year and ending at the time of the final adjournment of the local board of review. The affidavit when filed shall be open to inspection. The county treasurer shall cancel taxes subject to collection under this act for any year in which a disabled veteran eligible for the exemption under this section has acquired title to real property exempt under this section. Upon granting the exemption under this section, each local taxing unit shall bear the loss of its portion of the taxes upon which the exemption has been granted.

(2) If a disabled veteran who is otherwise eligible for the exemption under this section dies, either before or after the exemption under this section is granted, the exemption shall remain available to or shall continue for his or her unremarried surviving spouse. The surviving spouse shall comply with the requirements of subsection (1) and shall indicate on the affidavit that he or she is the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran entitled to the exemption under this section. The exemption shall continue as long as the surviving spouse remains unremarried.

(3) As used in this section, "disabled veteran" means a person who is a resident of this state and who meets 1 of the following criteria:

(a) Has been determined by the United States department of veterans affairs to be permanently and totally disabled as a result of military service and entitled to veterans' benefits at the 100% rate.

(b) Has a certificate from the United States veterans' administration, or its successors, certifying that he or she is receiving or has received pecuniary assistance due to disability for specially adapted housing.

(c) Has been rated by the United States department of veterans affairs as individually unemployable.

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act shall be known and may be cited as the "Dannie Lee Barnes disabled veteran property tax relief act".

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

*Carol Morey Viventi*

Secretary of the Senate

*Jay E. Randall*

Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved.....

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Governor