



Rep. Calley: We must expand veterans services throughout Michigan

I fully support legislation providing counties a grant to establish and maintain a veteran service office with accredited service officers present. Pre-existing veteran service departments will be provided with needed resources to further increase the level of their services.

These offices and case agents are vitally important. They connect military veterans with services through referrals to local and state agencies while also assisting with federal benefit claims. Veterans in counties where access to accredited county service officers is minimal often have a hard time accessing the help they need.

Michigan is home to more than 600,000 veterans. It is imperative we have an accredited service officer present in every county to make sure support is available to every single veteran in our state.

Area Veterans Service Offices

— Barry County —

Veterans Affairs Office
231 S. Broadway St.
Hastings, MI 49058
269-945-1296

— Ionia County —

Veterans Services Office
375 Appletree Drive
Ionia, MI 48846
616-527-1790

Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency

800-MICH-VET ★ www.MichiganVeterans.com



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JULIE CALLEY
SUPPORTING OUR HEROES WHO SERVED

P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JULIE CALLEY





THANK YOU

FOR SERVING OUR COUNTRY &
PROTECTING OUR FREEDOMS.

Dear Neighbor,

While we may never be able to fully repay our brave men and women in uniform for their selfless service, we must honor veterans by ensuring they receive the best possible care and services.

This past year, I helped approve bills to benefit the lives of the heroes who currently serve our nation and those who have honorably served in the past. Additionally, I am supporting a new plan to give all veterans greater access to a county veteran service office.

Inside, you will find other important information on recent legislation to help our military heroes.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



JULIE CALLEY
State Representative

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE **JULIE CALLEY**

— Veterans Update —

Rep. Calley supports extending property tax exemptions to military spouses

The Disabled Veterans Exemption was created to provide a tax exemption for real property used and owned either by a 100-percent disabled veteran or a surviving spouse.

However, there is a loophole in the law. If a military hero was killed while on active duty, the spouse would not be able to claim the exemption because the service member was not technically a veteran at the time of death.

House Bill 5429 offers needed clarity and extends the property tax exemption to include un-remarried, surviving spouses of Michigan service men and women who died while on active duty.



Rep. Calley commends improvements at Grand Rapids Home for Veterans

I am happy to report that significant improvements have been made at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. A federal survey shows the home now has met an impressive 230 of 231 standards.

As many veterans and their families remember, the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans received a disturbing audit in 2016 revealing numerous abuses and violations. The results of this audit were truly shocking and unacceptable. Veterans who have sacrificed so much for our country and state deserve the utmost care.

I will continue to monitor Michigan's veterans homes to ensure additional improvements are made. No family or veteran should ever be concerned with the standard of care they or their loved ones are receiving at our state-run veterans facilities.

★★ SUPPORTING OUR HEROES WHO SERVED ★★

Military experience adds value to the workplace

Military experience is a great way for young people to learn professional skills that are transferable to the workplace, such as leadership and management, professional communication, problem-solving, team-building, and many others.

But too many veterans are facing workplace inequity by receiving less pay for the same skills they gained in the armed forces. I helped approve House Bill 4858 to make sure the skills of these brave men and women are never overlooked in the public sector.

The legislation allows state employers to consider a veteran's military experience as relevant work experience for the purpose of determining pay.

