



Washington Association
of COUNTY OFFICIALS

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HB 2608 / SB 6251

Concerning property tax
exemptions for service-connected
disabled veterans and senior
citizens.

**Supported by the Washington Association of County
Officials (WACO) and the Washington State Association
of County Assessors (WSACA)**

WACO and the County Assessors are seeking to modify the senior property tax exemption qualifying income levels from statewide tiered dollar thresholds to thresholds based on a percentage of the median county income.

Under current law, seniors qualify for one of three exemption categories if their income is \$30,000 or less, \$35,000 or less, or \$40,000 or less. These income categories are the same in all 39 counties. This creates a disparity between eligibility between residents in counties with lower median household incomes, and counties with much higher household incomes.

The proposed legislation will fix this disparity by eliminating the flat rates for income, and tie the income threshold to 45%, 55%, or 65% of county median household income depending on qualifying level - creating a more equitable statewide solution for seniors.

There is no change in the number of qualifying levels and no currently qualified senior loses the qualification.

**The Proposed legislation creates equity for all seniors in
Washington in determining exemption eligibility.**