October 24, 1980

TO COUNTY ASSESSORS:

DISABLED VETERANS' EXEMPTION - LATE FILING

Senate Bill 1260, Chapter 1081 Statutes of 1980, which was signed by the Governor on September 26, 1980, amends Section 276 of the Revenue and Taxation Code as respects disabled veterans who file late for the $15,000 exemption. The new law is applicable for the 1979-80 and 1980-81 assessment years.

This supersedes our letter to assessors 79/206 dated November 26, 1979 in which we advised you that the maximum late-filing exemption allowable is $8,000 or 80 percent of the assessed value of the property, whichever is less. Under the new law, a person who qualifies for the $15,000 exemption but files late may receive an exemption up to $12,000 or $14,000 of assessed value depending on whether or not he or she is already receiving the $10,000 exemption.

Here is a summary of the late-filing provisions as it stands now:

1. A disabled veteran filing for the first time and filing a late claim by December 1 who qualifies and files only for the $10,000 exemption shall receive an exemption of $8,000 or 80 percent of the assessed value, whichever is lesser.

2. A disabled veteran filing for the first time and filing a late claim by December 1 who qualifies and files for the $15,000 exemption will receive an exemption of $12,000 or 80 percent of the assessed value, whichever is the lesser, provided the disabled veteran also and at the same time files for the $10,000 exemption.

3. A disabled veteran who has qualified in the prior year or who has filed a timely claim in the current year for the $10,000 exemption and who by December 1, qualifies and files a late claim for the $15,000 exemption shall receive an exemption of $14,000 or $10,000 plus 80 percent of the assessed value exceeding $10,000, whichever is the lesser.

As stated above, the new law contains an urgency clause and is applicable for the 1979-80 and 1980-81 assessment years. We suggest you review your late-filed $15,000 exemption claims for both years, make any corrections.
necessary, and notify the claimants of any refunds they may be eligible for.

Section 4.7 of Senate Bill 1260 is effective January 1, 1981 and is applicable to filings for the 1981-82 assessment year and thereafter. This section simply amends Section 276 of the Revenue and Taxation Code to change assessed value to full value in accordance with Proposition 3 on the November 1979 election ballot.

If you have any questions concerning the procedure to be followed, please contact Bill Minor, Vance Price, or Bill Grommet of this division; their phone number is (916) 445-4982.

Sincerely,

Verne Walton, Chief
Assessment Standards Division

VW:dw