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## Breakdown of the Constitutional Amendment



On November 5, 2024, Virginia voters will decide whether to change the state constitution to expand property tax exemptions for surviving spouses of military members who die while serving. To understand the proposed constitutional amendment, here's an explanation for voters:

### **Ballot Question**

*Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended so that the tax exemption that is currently available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action is also available to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty?*

### **The Breakdown**

#### **Current Law:**

In Virginia, property is generally taxed, but there are exceptions. Right now, the surviving spouse of a soldier who was killed in action (during combat) can get a property tax exemption on their primary home, meaning they don't have to pay real estate taxes on it.

#### **The Proposal:**

The amendment on the ballot will expand who is eligible for this benefit. If approved, it would allow the surviving spouse of a soldier who died in the line of duty (not just in combat) to get the same property tax exemption.

### **The Vote**

If you vote "yes," this will allow the spouses of soldiers who died while serving (whether in combat or not) to avoid paying property taxes on their primary home.

If you vote "no," only the spouses of soldiers killed in combat will continue to receive this tax exemption.