

Tom Bottem, Director

Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Ave. W. Suite 3300
ST. PAUL, MN 55155-1800
(651) 296-4791
www.senate.mn/scrfa

S.F. No. 2639 – Full subtraction of taxable Social Security benefits for veterans

Author: Senator Jeff Howe

Prepared by: Nora Pollock, Senate Counsel (651/297-8066)

Date: February 21, 2022

Under current law, Social Security benefits are excluded from federal adjusted gross income (FAGI), according to a taxpayer’s “provisional income.” Minnesota incorporates this exclusion in its tax code. Provisional income equals:

AGI (excluding Social Security benefits) + certain above the line deductions
+ nontaxable interest + 50% of Social Security benefits

Social Security benefits are excluded from federal and Minnesota tax according to three tiers of provisional income:

	Married Filers – Provisional Income	Single Filer – Provisional Income	% Excluded from Tax
	Up to \$32,000	Up to \$25,000	100%
1st Tier:	\$32,000 to \$44,000	\$25,000 to \$34,000	50%
2nd Tier:	\$44,000 or greater	\$34,000 or greater	15%

Minnesota currently provides a subtraction of a portion of taxable Social Security benefits, phased out by provisional income over specified amounts. The subtraction and the income thresholds are adjusted annually for inflation.

This bill allows a full subtraction of all taxable Social Security benefits for purposes of calculating Minnesota taxable income for veterans, as defined in current law. The subtraction would also apply to surviving spouses of veterans. Effective beginning in tax year 2022.