

# HOUSE BILL 340

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By: **Delegates Tarlau, Angel, Carr, Fennell, McCray, Platt, and Sanchez**  
Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2016  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Property Tax – Renters’ Property Tax Relief Program**

3 FOR the purpose of excluding certain items from the definition of “assets” for purposes of  
4 certain property tax relief provided to certain renters; altering the calculation of the  
5 relief provided by altering the calculation of the combined income of a renter;  
6 increasing the maximum amount of property tax relief that may be provided;  
7 providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the renters’  
8 property tax relief program.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
10 Article – Tax – Property  
11 Section 9–102(a)(1)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15 Article – Tax – Property  
16 Section 9–102(a)(2), (h), and (i)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
20 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Tax – Property**

22 9–102.

23 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

24 (2) (i) “Assets” include:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 1. real property;
- 2 2. cash;
- 3 3. savings accounts;
- 4 4. stocks;
- 5 5. bonds; and
- 6 6. any other investment.

7 (ii) "Assets" do not include:

- 8 1. the cash value of the life insurance policies on the life of
- 9 the renter; [or]

10 **2. THE CASH VALUE OF ANY QUALIFIED RETIREMENT**  
 11 **SAVINGS PLANS OR INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS; OR**

12 **[2.] 3. tangible personal property.**

13 (h) (1) The property tax relief that a renter may receive under this section is  
 14 the assumed property tax on real property less a percentage of the combined income of the  
 15 renter.

16 (2) The percentage is:

- 17 (i) 0% of the 1st \$4,000 of combined income;
- 18 (ii) 2.5% of the 2nd \$4,000 of combined income; **AND**
- 19 (iii) 5.5% of the **[3rd \$4,000 of]** combined income **;**
- 20 (iv) 7.5% of the 4th \$4,000 of combined income; and
- 21 (v) 9% of the combined income over \$16,000] **OVER \$8,000.**

22 (i) The property tax relief under this section may not be:

23 (1) more than **[\$750] \$1,000;**

24 (2) granted to any renter whose combined net worth exceeds \$200,000 as  
 25 of December 31 of the calendar year for which the property tax relief is sought;

1           (3)    granted to any renter whose dwelling is exempt from property tax; and

2           (4)    granted if the credit under this section is less than \$1 in any year.

3           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
4 1, 2016, and shall be applicable to all calendar years beginning after December 31, 2015.