Chapter 310

(Senate Bill 429)

AN ACT concerning

Property Tax Credit – Widow or Widower <u>Surviving Spouse</u> of Veteran

FOR the purpose of altering eligibility for a credit authorized against the county or municipal corporation property tax for certain veterans to include the widow or widower <u>certain surviving spouses</u> of certain veterans; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to a property tax credit for the widow or widower <u>surviving spouses</u> of certain veterans.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Tax – Property Section 9–258 Annotated Code of Maryland (2012 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

Article – Tax – Property

9-258.

- (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
 - (2) "Dwelling" has the meaning stated in § 9–105 of this title;
 - (3) "Eligible individual" means:

(i) an individual who is at least 65 years old and has lived in the same dwelling for at least the preceding 40 years; [or]

(ii) an individual who is at least 65 years old and is a retired member of the uniformed services of the United States as defined in 10 U.S.C. § 101, the military reserves, or the National Guard; **OR**

(III) THE WIDOW OR WIDOWER <u>A SURVIVING SPOUSE, WHO HAS</u> <u>NOT REMARRIED</u>, OF AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED IN ITEM (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

(b) The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation may grant, by law, a property tax credit under this section

against the county or municipal corporation property tax imposed on the dwelling of an eligible individual.

(c) The property tax credit allowed under this section may:

(1) not exceed 20% of the county or municipal corporation property tax imposed on the property; and

(2) be granted for a period of up to 5 years.

(d) The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation may provide, by law, for:

(1) the maximum assessed value of a dwelling that is eligible for the tax credit under this section;

(2) additional eligibility criteria for the tax credit under this section;

(3) regulations and procedures for the application and uniform processing of requests for the tax credit; and

(4) any other provision necessary to carry out the tax credit under this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2018, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2018.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2018.