

# SENATE BILL 417

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CF HB 257

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By: **Senators Salling, Carozza, Cassilly, Eckardt, Edwards, Ellis, Gallion, Hester, Hough, Jennings, Peters, Ready, Simonaire, Smith, West, and Young**  
Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020  
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Property Tax – Credit for Disabled Veterans**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to  
4 grant a certain property tax credit against the county or municipal corporation  
5 property tax imposed on the dwelling house of certain disabled veterans; providing  
6 for the amount of the property tax credit, subject to certain limitations; requiring  
7 certain disabled veterans to provide certain documents when applying for the  
8 property tax credit; prohibiting the inspection of a certain certificate of disability by  
9 certain individuals; authorizing the governing body of a county or municipal  
10 corporation to provide, by law, for certain matters relating to the property tax credit;  
11 defining certain terms; providing for the application of this Act; and generally  
12 relating to a property tax credit for the dwelling house of a disabled veteran.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Tax – Property  
15 Section 9–265  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2019 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article – Tax – Property**

21 **9–265.**

22 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
23 INDICATED.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(2) “DISABLED VETERAN” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:**

2                   **(I) IS HONORABLY DISCHARGED OR RELEASED UNDER**  
3 **HONORABLE CIRCUMSTANCES FROM ACTIVE MILITARY, NAVAL, OR AIR SERVICE AS**  
4 **DEFINED IN 38 U.S.C. § 101; AND**

5                   **(II) HAS BEEN DECLARED BY THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION**  
6 **TO HAVE A PERMANENT SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY OF AT LEAST 50% THAT**  
7 **RESULTS FROM BLINDNESS OR ANY OTHER DISABLING CAUSE THAT:**

8                           **1. IS REASONABLY CERTAIN TO CONTINUE FOR THE LIFE**  
9 **OF THE VETERAN; AND**

10                           **2. WAS NOT CAUSED OR INCURRED BY MISCONDUCT OF**  
11 **THE VETERAN.**

12           **(3) “DWELLING HOUSE”:**

13                   **(I) MEANS REAL PROPERTY THAT IS:**

14                           **1. THE LEGAL RESIDENCE OF A DISABLED VETERAN;**  
15 **AND**

16                           **2. OCCUPIED BY NOT MORE THAN TWO FAMILIES; AND**

17                   **(II) INCLUDES THE LOT OR CURTILAGE AND STRUCTURES**  
18 **NECESSARY TO USE THE REAL PROPERTY AS A RESIDENCE.**

19           **(B) THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY OR THE**  
20 **GOVERNING BODY OF A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION MAY GRANT, BY LAW,**  
21 **A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION AGAINST THE COUNTY OR**  
22 **MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED ON A DWELLING HOUSE IF:**

23                   **(1) THE DWELLING HOUSE IS OWNED BY A DISABLED VETERAN;**

24                   **(2) THE DISABLED VETERAN’S FEDERAL ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME**  
25 **FOR THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING TAXABLE YEAR DOES NOT EXCEED \$100,000;**  
26 **AND**

27                   **(3) THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS**  
28 **SECTION ARE MET.**

29           **(C) THE PROPERTY TAX CREDIT GRANTED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL**

1 EQUAL:

2 (1) 50% OF THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PROPERTY  
3 TAX IMPOSED ON THE DWELLING HOUSE IF THE DISABLED VETERAN'S  
4 SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY RATING IS AT LEAST 75% BUT NOT MORE THAN  
5 99%; OR

6 (2) 25% OF THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PROPERTY  
7 TAX IMPOSED ON THE DWELLING HOUSE IF THE DISABLED VETERAN'S  
8 SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY RATING IS AT LEAST 50% BUT NOT MORE THAN  
9 74%.

10 (D) (1) A DISABLED VETERAN SHALL APPLY FOR THE PROPERTY TAX  
11 CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION BY PROVIDING TO THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL  
12 CORPORATION:

13 (I) A COPY OF THE DISABLED VETERAN'S DISCHARGE  
14 CERTIFICATE FROM ACTIVE MILITARY, NAVAL, OR AIR SERVICE; AND

15 (II) ON THE FORM PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL  
16 CORPORATION, A CERTIFICATION OF THE DISABLED VETERAN'S DISABILITY FROM  
17 THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION.

18 (2) THE DISABLED VETERAN'S CERTIFICATE OF DISABILITY MAY NOT  
19 BE INSPECTED BY INDIVIDUALS OTHER THAN:

20 (I) THE DISABLED VETERAN; OR

21 (II) APPROPRIATE EMPLOYEES OF THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL  
22 CORPORATION.

23 (E) THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY OR THE  
24 GOVERNING BODY OF A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION MAY PROVIDE, BY  
25 LAW, FOR:

26 (1) THE DURATION OF THE TAX CREDIT;

27 (2) REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR THE APPLICATION AND  
28 UNIFORM PROCESSING OF REQUESTS FOR THE TAX CREDIT; AND

29 (3) ANY OTHER PROVISION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE TAX  
30 CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION.

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
2 1, 2020, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2020.