

## **Jeffery Diggs**

Uploaded by: Diggs, Jefferey

Position: FAV

February 12, 2020

**Testimony of Jeffrey L. Diggs, Sr. in Support of SB 442:  
Public-Private Partnership Agreements - Minority Business Enterprise Programs**

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

**Senate Bill 442** proposes to restore the applicability of Maryland's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) program to public-private partnerships (P3s).

As a certified small business owner in Maryland, I am keenly aware of the benefits of public-private partnerships. P3s enable greater private sector participation, expertise, and mitigate risk for state agencies engaged in large infrastructure projects.

Restoring the application of the MBE program to P3s would benefit my Minority Business Enterprise for several reasons. Restoring the application of the MBE program to P3s would benefit my Minority Business Enterprise for several reasons. One of which is the bottom line approach private business models bring. We can't afford to cost over runs, therefore must work most effectively and efficiently as possible and bring innovation to maximize any profits we can envision, thus, the public/taxpayers benefit. As the Principal of Lynn Tyler Consulting, LLC, I bring experience as an employee of the private and public sector, and the primary reason of becoming a business owner. I have felt the pains of being a public sector employee and couldn't effect change because of policy, yet as a employee of a private sector company I could perform a task that not only saved the public money, the private company made a profit.

After the completion of the 2017 Business Disparities in the Maryland Market Area study, Chapter 340 of the 2017 Maryland Code reauthorized the MBE program for five more years. However, it did not restore the application of the program to P3s. Senate Bill 442 would restore that application, enabling my Minority Business Enterprise to thrive in Maryland.

**Thus, I urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 442.**

Respectfully,

Jeffrey L. Diggs, Sr.

# **Legislative \_SB 417\_Salling\_B&T**

Uploaded by: guibao, patrick

Position: FAV



**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
Department of Maryland  
Legislative Commission

1020 Wallace Road  
Crownsville MD 21032-1318

443.949.6322  
*patguibao@icloud.com*

**STATEMENT IN SUPPORT FOR SB 0417**  
**PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION – DISABLED VETERANS**

Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chairman Rosapeppe and distinguished members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

The American Legion Department of Maryland strongly supports any fiscal legislation which awards a financial incentive to veterans and especially those who have been seriously injured in the line of duty on behalf of our nation.

Senate Bill 417 will allow these service members to enjoy a greater disposable income, further improving their lives and those of their families.

The American Legion, serving over 48,000 active duty, service veterans and their families throughout Maryland respectfully request a favorable report on SB 417, a most valuable measure. We very much appreciate Senator Salling for his steadfast support of veteran's needs as well as the bipartisan support of the other sponsors. Thank you, and

Yours, respectfully

*Patrick Guibao*

Patrick J. Guibao  
Chairman  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Department of Maryland  
Legislative Commission

## **SB 417 HB 257 Ltr to Chair**

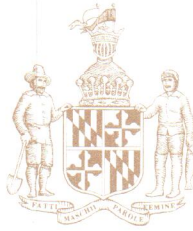
Uploaded by: Senator Salling, Senator Salling

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JOHNNY RAY SALLING  
Legislative District 6  
Baltimore County

Budget and Taxation Committee

Health and Human Services Subcommittee



James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 416  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3587 · 301-858-3587  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3587  
JohnnyRay.Salling@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 5, 2020

SB 417 / HB 257: Property Tax Credit for Disabled Veterans

POSITION: FAVORABLE

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members:

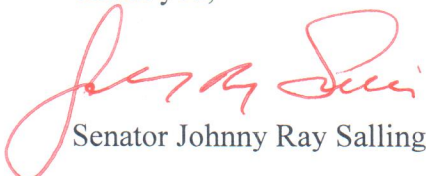
Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify in favor of Senate Bill 417 which will allow veterans with less than a 100% disability receive a property tax credit. This bill is a cross-file (HB 257) with Delegate Crosby. I would like to thank Delegate Crosby for allowing me to cross-file on this bill to help many of the veterans in our state.

Current law states that to be eligible for a property tax exemption, a veteran must have a 100% service related disability. A veteran that is 100% disabled and married with 1 child will receive according to the US Department of Veterans Affairs a monthly amount of \$3,352.41. That is only \$40,228.92 a year to support his whole family. Some may argue that that is generous enough, but that is not where the problem lays. The problem is when a veteran is not 100% disabled. At 90% disability, a veteran is taking home only \$2,098.62, significantly less. That is a \$1,253.79 difference per month and \$15,045.48 difference per year. When you add in all of life's other needs and expenses and then include a high property tax rate; it all just becomes too much of a burden for our veterans.

This bill will help veterans by keeping the current law in place and allowing for two more categories. The first category will allow a county to grant a 25% property tax credit for veterans that have a 50%-74% service connected disability. The second category will allow a local to grant a 50% property tax credit for veterans that have a 75%-99% service connected disability.

As a former member of the US Army, I believe this bill will offer greater assistance to disabled members of our military that are prevented by their injuries from having gainful employment, and respectfully request a favorable report.

Thank you,

  
Senator Johnny Ray Salling

## **SB 417 HB 257 Ltr to Chair**

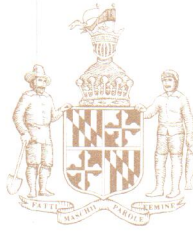
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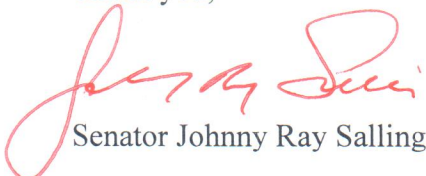
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## **SB 417 HB 257 Support stats**

Uploaded by: Senator Salling, Senator Salling

Position: FAV

[More in this section](#)

# 2019 Veterans disability compensation rates

View 2019 Veterans disability compensation rates. Use our compensation benefits rate tables to find your monthly payment amount. We base your monthly payment amount on your disability rating and details about your dependent family members.

## Compensation rates for Veterans with a 10% to 20% disability rating

Effective December 1, 2018

**Note:** If you have a 10% to 20% disability rating, you won't receive a higher rate even if you have a dependent spouse, child, or parent.

Disability rating	Monthly payment
10%	\$140.05
20%	\$276.84

## Compensation rates for Veterans with a 30% to 100% disability rating

Effective December 1, 2018

### With a dependent spouse or parent, but no children

[Compensation rates for 30% to 60% disability rating](#)

[Compensation rates for 70% to 100% disability rating](#)

### With dependents, including children

[Compensation rates for 30% to 60% disability rating](#)

### Compensation rates for 70% to 100% disability rating

Find the dependent status in the left column that best describes you. Then look for your disability rating in the top row. Your monthly basic rate is where your dependent status and disability rating meet.

If you have more than one child or your spouse receives [Aid and Attendance benefits](#), be sure to also look at the **Added amounts** table, and add these to your amount from the **Basic rates** table.

### Basic rates for monthly payments—all rates in \$ U.S. dollars

Dependent status	70% disability rating	80% disability rating	90% disability rating	100% disability rating
<b>Veteran with child only</b> (no spouse or parents)	1,482.71	1,722.69	1,935.62	3,171.12
<b>With 1 child and spouse</b> (no parents)	1,609.71	1,867.69	2,098.62	3,352.41
<b>With 1 child, spouse and 1 parent</b>	1,704.71	1,976.69	2,221.62	3,489.20
<b>With 1 child, spouse and 2 parents</b>	1,799.71	2,085.69	2,344.62	3,625.99
<b>With 1 child and 1 parent</b>	1,577.71	1,940.69	2,181.62	3,444.70
<b>With 1 child and 2 parents</b> (no spouse)	1,672.71	1,849.69	2,079.62	3,330.71

### Added amounts—all rates in \$ U.S. dollars

Dependent status	70% disability rating	80% disability rating	90% disability rating	100% disability rating
<b>Each additional child under age 18</b>	59.00	67.00	76.00	84.69
<b>Each additional child over age 18 in a qualifying school program</b>	191.00	218.00	246.00	273.58
<b>Spouse receiving Aid and Attendance</b>	109.00	125.00	141.00	156.32

**Note:** We're required by law to match the percentage of cost-of-living adjustments made to Social Security benefits. These adjustments help to make sure that the purchasing power of your benefits keeps up with inflation. You can get the latest cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) information on the [Social Security Administration's \(SSA\) website](#).

# How to use the tables to find your monthly payment

## Find your basic rate

Go to the compensation rates for your disability rating. On the **Basic rates** table, find the amount for your disability rating and dependent status. This is your monthly basic rate.

### Example (Veteran with no children):

If you're a Veteran with a 30% disability rating, and you have a dependent spouse (no dependent parents or children), your monthly basic rate would be \$479.83 each month.

## Find your added amounts, if any apply

If your spouse receives [Aid and Attendance benefits](#) or you have more than one child, you may qualify for additional monthly payment amounts as listed in the **Added amounts** table.

First, determine your basic rate.

### Example (Veteran with children):

If you're a Veteran with a 70% disability rating, and you have a spouse, plus 3 dependent children under the age of 18, you would start with the basic rate of \$1,609.71 (for a Veteran with a spouse and 1 child).

Next, look at the **Added amounts** table. Find the amount for children under age 18 (\$59.00).

Since your basic rate already provides payment for 1 child, you would add the rate of \$59.00 for each additional child (so \$59 x 2).

If your spouse receives Aid and Attendance, you would also add \$109 (which is the added amount for a spouse receiving Aid and Attendance, for a Veteran with a 70% disability rating).

In our example of a Veteran with 70% disability rating, your total monthly payment amount would be:

**\$1,609.71** basic rate (1 spouse, 1 child)  
**+ \$59** (second child under 18)  
**+ \$59** (third child under 18)  
**+ \$109** (spouse who receives Aid and Attendance)  
**Total \$1,836.71**

## Historic rates

View Veterans disability compensation rates for past years.

[Rates effective December 1, 2017](#)

[Rates effective December 1, 2016](#)

[Rates effective December 1, 2015 and earlier](#)

## **SB 417 HB 257 Support stats**

Uploaded by: Senator Salling, Senator Salling

Position: FAV

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# **SB417\_MMC\_Support\_SmithBT**

Uploaded by: smith, brian

Position: FAV



## MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

### SENATE BILL 417 – SUPPORT

#### Property Tax – Credit for Disabled Veterans Budget and Taxation Committee February 12, 2020

Good afternoon Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee. My name is Brian Smith. I am a Navy Veteran and a volunteer with the Maryland Military Coalition.

The Maryland Military Coalition is a **nonprofit, all volunteer, Veterans advocacy group** representing the interests of Maryland Veterans, Service members, and their Families. Our alliance consists of sixteen organizations, listed on the following page, with over 100,000 members. We represent about one-fourth of Maryland's Veterans, Service members, and their Families.

The Maryland Military Coalition **supports Senate Bill 417.**

As you know this bill provides a county-optional, partial, sliding scale property tax exemption for disabled Veterans rated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs with a 50-99% service-connected, permanent disability.

Presently, service-disabled Veterans, rated 100% permanent and total, and their surviving spouses, are entitled to a full property tax exemption on their primary residence. There are approximately 10,500 severely disabled Veterans and surviving spouses entitled to that benefit.

**This new effort would potentially afford partial property tax relief to over 24,000 additional severely disabled Veterans!**

A 50% permanent disability rating reflects a severe condition, where the life and livelihood of the Veteran will be significantly impacted. Such a Veteran is far less likely to be able gain and maintain employment and is far more likely to require the assistance of a caregiver. Since the caregiver is often the Veteran's spouse, the spouse is challenged in maintaining meaningful employment. The cumulative effect exacerbates the challenge of owning and remaining in a home.

In one of my final Navy assignments, I had the honor of leading a medical holding unit, assisting over 180 wounded, ill, and injured Sailors through the Military-Veterans Affairs disability rating process and their transition back to civilian life. I noted a distinct demarcation in the overall health and well-being of Sailors that were rated at a 50% disability rating or higher.

Their cumulative, permanent medical conditions would dramatically, often devastatingly, impact the rest of their lives. They are amongst our most deserving, yet most vulnerable citizens.

The Maryland Military Coalition believes we must honor the service and acknowledge the sacrifice of our severely disabled Veterans. **Senate Bill 417** does so, by providing greater economic viability for severely disabled Veterans and the Veterans' family caregivers by ensuring their ability to afford and remain in their homes.

**We respectfully request a favorable report for Senate Bill 417.**

For questions or additional information, please feel free to contact me at  
BTSmith1184@outlook.com or by calling 703.623.3678

**Member Organizations, Maryland Military Coalition**

*James P. Monahan*  
Air Force Sergeants Association

*Stacy P. May*  
American Military Society

*Lynn A. Nash*  
Commissioned Officers Association of the  
US Public Health Service

*Wilbert B. Forbes*  
Disabled American Veterans

*Sheldon Goldberg*  
Distinguished Flying Cross Association

*Pleasala J. Collins*  
Fleet Reserve Association

*Evan A. Buttrick*  
Jewish War Veterans of the USA

*Steve L. Bloodgood*  
Maryland Air National Guard Retirees'  
Association

*Harvey Kaplan*  
Military Officers Association of America

*Charles Egbert*  
Military Order of the Purple Heart

*Mervyn Rice*  
National Association for Black Veterans

*Michael P. Hays*  
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

*Christian Andreasen*  
NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers

*Catherine L. McGraw*  
Society of Military Widows

*Arthur L. Cooper*  
The Retired Enlisted Association

*Thomas C. Williams*  
Veterans of Foreign Wars