



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

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IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 257
PROPERTY TAX – CREDIT FOR DISABLED VETERANS
BEFORE THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
February 6, 2020

The American Legion Department of Maryland, in its second century of service to military veterans and their families represents 136 Posts in our states' 23 counties and the City of Baltimore serving over 47,000 members, **fully endorses House Bill 257.**

Real property owned by disabled veterans, as their legal residence, is exempt from taxation, if they have been awarded a 100 percent service-connected disability by the U. S. Department of Veteran's Affairs.

House Bill 257 expands existing statutes to ensure the beneficiary's residence is **exempt** from any governmental charges directly related to the dwelling, whether imposed by a state, county or Municipal corporation, or any other taxing authority if the veteran has a 50 percent disability rating or greater.

The American Legion fully believes we must honor the service and acknowledge the courageous sacrifice of these severely disabled veterans.

This bill enhances financial security for our severely disabled veterans. It grants affordable homes, enabling them to remain in their residences and rightfully recognizes their life-threatening sacrifices on behalf of a grateful nation.

We are deeply grateful for Delegate Crosby and the other sponsors for their compassion in preparing this legislative measure.

In closing, we respectfully pray for a favorable report by this committee for House Bill 257.

Yours, Respectfully

Patrick Guibao

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