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SB 6 Property Tax Credit for Dwelling of Disabled Veterans - Alterations
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
SUPPORT
January 18, 2024

Good Afternoon Chair Guzzone and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee. I am Priscilla Kania, lead volunteer advocate and resident of Annapolis, Maryland. AARP Maryland is one of the largest membership-based organizations in the state, encompassing over 850,000 members. **AARP MD overwhelmingly supports SB 6 - Property Tax Credit for Disabled Veterans – Alterations.** We thank Senators Gile, Beidle, Carozza, Klausmeier, Simonaire and Smith for sponsoring this bill.

AARP is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, nationwide organization that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families such as housing, healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities, and protection from financial abuse.

Senate Bill 6 alters the current bill to include veterans who have been declared by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to have a nonpermanent service-connected disability of 100% that was not caused or incurred by misconduct of the veteran. Such a Veteran is far less likely to be able to 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 also disadvantaged in maintaining meaningful employment. The cumulative effect exacerbates the challenge of owning and remaining in a home.

AARP believes we must honor the service and acknowledge the sacrifice of our disabled Veterans. Altering Senate Bill 6 does so by providing greater economic viability for a disabled Veteran who is 100% disabled with a disability that is not permanent and the Veteran's caregiver by ensuring their ability to afford and remain in their home.

For these reasons, we respectfully request a favorable report for Senate Bill 6. For questions or additional information, please feel free to contact Tammy Bresnahan, Associate State Director of Advocacy at tbresnahan@aarp.org or by calling 410-302-8451.

AARP
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