HOUSE BILL 358

Q3 HB 389/20 – W&M

(PRE-FILED)

1lr1396 CF SB 241

By: Delegate Wilson

Requested: October 30, 2020 Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021 Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable House action: Adopted Read second time: February 8, 2021

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

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Income Tax Checkoff – Maryland Veterans Trust Fund

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a certain income tax checkoff for voluntary contributions 4 to the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund; requiring the Comptroller to include a $\mathbf{5}$ checkoff on the individual income tax return; providing that the income tax checkoff 6 include a certain statement; requiring the Comptroller to include certain information 7 in each individual income tax return package; requiring the Comptroller to collect 8 and account for contributions made through the checkoff and to credit the proceeds 9 to the Fund after deducting the amount necessary to administer the checkoff; 10 providing that the Fund may consist of certain contributions from the income tax 11 checkoff; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to an income 12tax checkoff for contributions to the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund.

- 13 BY adding to
- 14 Article Tax General
- 15 Section 2–116 and 10–804(l)
- 16 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 17 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)
- 18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
- 19 Article State Government
- 20 Section 9–913(e), (f), (h), and (i)
- 21 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 22 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



- 1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 2 Article State Government
- 3 Section 9–913(g)
- 4 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 5 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)
- 6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 7 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 8

Article – Tax – General

9 **2–116.**

10 (A) (1) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL INCLUDE ON THE INDIVIDUAL 11 INCOME TAX RETURN FORM A CHECKOFF DESIGNATED AS THE "MARYLAND 12 VETERANS TRUST FUND CONTRIBUTION".

13 (2) THE CHECKOFF SHALL STATE THAT:

14(I) THE INDIVIDUAL, OR EACH SPOUSE IN THE CASE OF A JOINT15RETURN, MAY CONTRIBUTE TO THE MARYLAND VETERANS TRUST FUND THE16AMOUNT DESIGNATED BY THE INDIVIDUAL; AND

17(II)1.THE INDIVIDUAL SHALL DEDUCT THE AMOUNT OF THE18CONTRIBUTION FROM ANY REFUND TO WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL IS ENTITLED; OR

19 2. IF THE INDIVIDUAL IS NOT ENTITLED TO A REFUND,
 20 THE INDIVIDUAL SHALL ADD THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE INCOME
 21 TAX TO BE PAID WITH THE RETURN.

(3) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL INCLUDE, WITH THE INDIVIDUAL
INCOME TAX RETURN PACKAGE, A DESCRIPTION OF THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE
MARYLAND VETERANS TRUST FUND WAS ESTABLISHED AND THE PURPOSES FOR
WHICH THE FUND MAY BE USED.

26 (B) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL:

27 (1) COLLECT THE CHECKOFF CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACCOUNT TO THE 28 STATE TREASURER FOR THE MONEY COLLECTED;

(2) FROM THE CONTRIBUTIONS COLLECTED, DISTRIBUTE THE
 AMOUNT NECESSARY TO ADMINISTER THE CHECKOFF TO AN ADMINISTRATIVE COST
 ACCOUNT; AND

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AFTER THE DISTRIBUTION UNDER ITEM (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION. 1 (3) $\mathbf{2}$ DISTRIBUTE THE REMAINDER OF THE MONEY COLLECTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION 3 TO THE MARYLAND VETERANS TRUST FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 9–913 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE. 4 $\mathbf{5}$ 10 - 804.6 (L) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY DESIGNATE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE MARYLAND 7 VETERANS TRUST FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 9–913 OF THE STATE 8 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE BY THE CHECKOFF ON THE RETURN.** 9 Article – State Government 9-913. 10

11 (e) (1) There is a Maryland Veterans Trust established for the purpose of 12 providing monetary and other assistance to:

13 (i) veterans and their families; and

14 (ii) public and private programs that support veterans and their 15 families.

16 (2) There is a Maryland Veterans Trust Fund.

17 (f) The Trust shall be a body corporate and shall have perpetual existence, 18 subject to modification or termination by the General Assembly if necessary to effectuate 19 its purpose or if its substantial purpose ceases to exist.

20 (g) The Fund consists of:

21 (1) gifts and grants that the Trust receives under § 9–914.2(a)(1) of this 22 subtitle; [and]

23 (2) contributions to the Fund from:

24 (i) the sale of tickets from instant ticket lottery machines under § 25 9–112(d) of this title;

26 (ii) the donations from video lottery facility players under § 27 9–1A–04(d)(19) of this title; and

(iii) the designated fees from special registration plates for recipients
 of an individually earned, combat-related armed forces medal under § 13-619.1 of the
 Transportation Article; AND

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$\frac{1}{2}$	TAX CHECK	(3) THE NET PROCEEDS FROM CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER THE INCOME COFF ESTABLISHED UNDER § 2–116 OF THE TAX – GENERAL ARTICLE.
3	(h)	Money in the Fund may only be used to:
4		(1) make grants and loans under § 9–914.2(a)(3) of this subtitle;
5		(2) be invested under § 9–914.3(b) of this subtitle; and
6 7	administrat	(3) pay the costs of administering the Fund through distribution to an ive cost account in the Department.
8 9	(i) that would	Money expended from the Fund is not intended to take the place of funding otherwise be appropriated to the Department.
10 11		TION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July I shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2020.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.