



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

HOUSE BILL 1109 — SUPPORT

Disabled Active Duty Service Members, Disabled Veterans, and Surviving Spouses -- Exemption From Property Tax and Other Charges and Refunds

House Ways and Means Committee

March 3, 2020

The Maryland Military Coalition is a **nonprofit, all volunteer, Veterans advocacy group** representing the interests of Maryland Veterans, Service Members, their families and survivors. The Coalition consists of 17 military and veteran's 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.

Military service is difficult, demanding and dangerous. But separating from military service and returning to civilian life also poses challenges for the men and women who have served in the armed forces.

Far too many of our nation's brave fighting men and women come home after serving our country and face significant difficulty accessing and affording housing. **The financial difficulty is compounded for service-disabled veterans.**

Maryland provides exemption from taxation on the real property owned by disabled veterans -- as their legal residence.

But in many instances, there is a lag time between the time a veteran applies to the federal government for disability benefits and when the State and local property tax exemption is granted, due to the time it takes to process claims at the federal level. As a result, the individual has to pay State and local property taxes while the application is processed and approved.

This bill allows these individuals to receive a refund for any property taxes paid for up to five years from when the disability claim was filed.

Our veterans have served with honor and distinction and we are all grateful for their sacrifices. By advancing HB 1109, we are expressing our gratitude for their service and relieving a financial burden for our most severely disabled Veterans and their survivors.

The Maryland Military Coalition strongly supports House Bill 1109 and respectfully requests a favorable report.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signature page follows)

For questions or additional information, please feel free to contact me at
jpaulmay@aol.com or by calling (410) 212-1539

**1101 Mercantile Lane, Suite 260 • Largo, Maryland 20774
(301) 583-8687 • (800) 808-4517**

Member Organizations, Maryland Military Coalition


Air Force Sergeants Association


American Military Society


Association of the United States Navy


Commissioned Officers Association of the
US Public Health Service


Disabled American Veterans


Distinguished Flying Cross Association


Fleet Reserve Association


Jewish War Veterans of the USA


Maryland Air National Guard Retirees'
Association


Military Officers Association of America

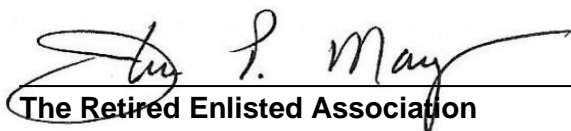

Military Order of the Purple Heart


National Association for Black Veterans


Naval Enlisted Reserve Association


NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers


Society of Military Widows


The Retired Enlisted Association


Veterans of Foreign Wars