



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Before the Budget and Tax**

**In Support of HB285**

**Property Tax Credit - Disabled Law Enforcement Officers and Rescue Workers - Federal  
Police and Criminal Investigators  
March 23, 2022, pm**

Chair Guzzone, Vice-Chair Rosapepe, and members of the Budget and Tax Committee, for the record - I am Delegate Dana Jones.

I come before you today to testify on simple, enabling legislation to expand an already existing tax credit to disabled federal officers.

Many counties in Maryland offer disabled state law enforcement officers and rescue workers a property tax credit. A majority of these individuals live on fixed incomes due to their injuries, and this tax credit provides financial relief to them and their families. Currently, this benefit is only available to state agents. HB285 would expand the benefit to disabled federal agents who were living in Maryland during their declaration as disabled, or anytime within five years prior.

This bill includes federal job series: 0083 Federal Police Officers or detectives for federal government agencies (Focuses on Crime investigations, plain-clothed investigators) and 1811 Criminal Investigators for federal government agencies (focuses on crime prevention and security supervision of law enforcement work). Which includes Federal Officers from: the US Capitol Police, National Institute of Health, Department of Defense, Dept of Veterans Affairs, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Mint, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the Supreme Court Police, the Pentagon Police, Central Intelligence Agency to name just a few.

Last year, we watched in horror as insurrectionists stormed the capital. The only thing that stopped these violent actors from reaching our elected officials and their staff was the heroic actions taken by our Capitol Police Officers and Metropolitan Police. Over 80 capitol police officers were injured during the riot, and over 150 officers in total from several local agencies became injured as a result of the attack. Unfortunately, under the current law, counties would not be allowed to extend this benefit to these brave men and women who fought to preserve our democracy that dark day.

I believe extending this property tax credit to disabled federal agents shows how we value these Federal Officers from Maryland, their families and their dedication to our country.

It shows our intent on retaining these brave men and women in Maryland as neighbors, community members and heroes.

I respectfully urge a favorable report on this enabling legislation.

Delegate Dana Jones

