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St. Mary's County

Vice Chair
Economic Matters Committee



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Good afternoon Madam Chairwoman, Vice Chair, and distinguished members of the committee. I am Vice Chair Brian Crosby and it's an honor to present HB224 entitled **Property Tax Exemption - Disabled Veterans.**

This bill exempts veterans with an 80%, or higher, service-related disability rating, determined by the Veterans' Administration, from property taxes. Currently, only veterans with a 100% disability rating are exempt from property taxes.

In Maryland we have over 371,000 veterans, and 30,000 have a disability rating of 70% or higher. Veterans with these ratings have a hard time working because of their injuries. The financial burden and stress of owning and remaining in their home should not be something that our most deserving citizens struggle with.

Based on these reasons, I ask for a favorable report on HB224.