

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lt. Governor



MICHAEL HIGGS
Director

MARCUS ALZONA
Deputy Director

301 W. Preston Street, Room 801, Baltimore, Maryland 21201
Legislative Liaison: Joshua.Greenberg@Maryland.gov
1-888-246-5941 TTY: 1-800-735-2258
www.dat.maryland.gov

HEARING DATE: March 5, 2024

BILL: HB1348

TITLE: Homestead Property Tax Credit - Calculation of Credit Percentage - Social Security Benefits

SDAT POSITION: OPPOSE

The Department of Assessments and Taxation respectfully opposes House Bill 1348 - Homestead Property Tax Credit - Calculation of Credit Percentage - Social Security Benefits. This bill would alter Homestead tax credit calculations for recipients who receive more than 50% of their income from social security.

While the Department appreciates the intent of this legislation, House Bill 1348 would drastically alter the manner by which homestead tax credits are calculated. Currently, the Department's homestead tax credit division does not review any income documentation, rather, approval is dependent solely on whether the property receiving the credit is the primary residence of the applicant.

To administer this bill, the Department would need to change the Homestead Credit to have an annual application, similar to the Homeowners Tax Credit Program. Consequently, the Department would need to increase staffing levels and program new functionality in its existing application software at a significant cost.

Accordingly, the Department respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** report on House Bill 1348.