



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

January 30, 2024

The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary
Chairman, Ways and Means Committee
Room 131
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: **Request for FAVORABLE Report** – HB0063 – Property Tax – Credit for Dwelling House of Disabled Veterans – Alterations

Dear Chairperson Atterbeary and distinguished members of the Ways and Means Committee:

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition (MMC) and as its Legislative Director, I write to recommend a **FAVORABLE report** by the Committee on **HB 0063 – Property Tax – Credit for Dwelling House of Disabled Veterans – Alteration**, sponsored by Delegate Andrew Pruski. The primary purpose of this bill would be to amend Article – Tax – Property, Section 9-265 of the Annotated Code of Maryland to include veterans who have a nonpermanent service-connected disability of 100% that resulted from blindness or any other disabling cause that was not caused or incurred by the misconduct of the veteran. The disabled veteran would be eligible for a 50% property tax credit in those Maryland jurisdictions where the above section of the code has been granted.

This bill will align the Annotated Code of Maryland with the Temporary Total Disability Ratings of the US Department of Veterans Affairs. As pointed out on the Benefits.com website, “Though many veterans ultimately recover over time, VA temporary total disability ratings allow them to compensate for the income they are unable to earn through a substantially gainful occupation. This disability compensation entails their being rated at 100 percent disabled, but only for a limited period of time.”¹ Depending upon what type of temporary rating is awarded to the veteran, the period of time can be up to 12 months.² The adoption of this bill will create an added benefit for those veterans in this category. It will serve to mitigate financial pressure upon them regarding their mortgage payments, which include a property tax component.

¹ <https://benefits.com/veterans-disability/temporary-total-disability-ratings/>,

² <https://vaclaimsinsider.com/temporary-100-va-disability/#13-how-long-do-temporary-ratings-last->

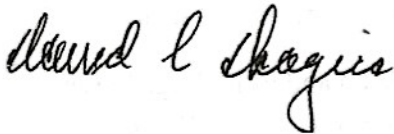
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The Maryland Military Coalition **strongly supports** HB0063 and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report from the Ways and Means Committee. This bill builds on the Moore Administration's Year of the Military Families, providing another benefit that assists and helps the veterans and their families who have bravely served, fought, and sacrificed for our state and country.

The Maryland Military Coalition is a registered non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization comprised of 21 prominent Maryland-based veteran and military groups, representing over 150,000 service-connected individuals, including those currently serving, veterans, retirees and their families, caregivers, and survivors.

We want to thank Delegate Andrew Pruski for sponsoring this legislation and his continued strong support of the veterans community in Maryland.

Respectfully,



David L. Dragics
COL USA (Ret)
Legislative Director

Member Organizations, Maryland Military Coalition

James P. Monahan
Air Force Sergeants Association

John P. May
American Military Society

Elwood R. Raphael Gray
American Minority Veterans Research Project

W. G. G.
Association of the United States Navy

Lynn A. Dask
Commissioned Officers Association of the
US Public Health Service

Wilbur B. Fisher
Disabled American Veterans

Seldon H. Freidus
Distinguished Flying Cross Association

Phyllis J. Collins
Fleet Reserve Association

Seldon H. Freidus
Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Steve L. Brooker
Maryland Air National Guard Retirees'
Association

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Maryland Veterans Chamber of Commerce

Robert J. Winton
Military Officers Association of America

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