
ROBERT G. CASSILLY
Harford County Executive



ROBERT S. McCORD
Director of Administration

March 31, 2026

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter of Support – House Bill 842 – Property Tax Credit – Surviving Spouse of Military Service Member

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Committee Members,

On behalf of the citizens of Harford County, I write to express strong support for House Bill 842.

This bill repeals the current requirement that an unremarried surviving spouse acquire a dwelling within two years of a service member's line-of-duty death to qualify for a real property tax exemption.

This legislation appropriately recognizes the extraordinary sacrifices made by unremarried surviving spouses of service members killed in the line of duty. The existing time limitation imposes an unreasonable burden on families during a period marked by profound grief and the complex legal, financial, and caregiving responsibilities that follow such a loss.

Our nation's Gold Star spouses have endured immeasurable sacrifice while continuing to support their families and communities. This bill affirms our collective responsibility to stand with them during a time of profound transition and Loss, and to honor the service and sacrifice of their loved ones.

I commend the sponsors for advancing this meaningful Legislation and extend my sincere gratitude to the Gold Star families whose strength and resilience inspire us all.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge a favorable report on House Bill 842.

Yours truly,

Robert G. Cassilly